

The Leader.

A POLITICAL, LITERARY, COMMERCIAL AND FAMILY WEEKLY NEWSPAPER,

RECORD OF JOINT STOCK COMPANIES, BANKS, RAILWAYS, MINES, SHIPPING, &c.

VOL. X. No. 478.]

SATURDAY, MAY 21, 1859.

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Empowered by Special Act of Parliament, 4 Vict. Cap. 9,
AND
**BRITANNIA MUTUAL LIFE ASSO-
CIATION,**

Empowered by Her Majesty's Royal Letters Patent.
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Rates are allowed credit for half the amount of the
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The International Society has been established since 1837,
for effecting every description of Life Assurance, immediate
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Profits divided Quinquennially.
Stamps on Life Assurance Policies paid by the Society.
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Half the Premiums may remain on Loan, on the With-
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With power to increase to One Million.

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Investments are received from £10 and upwards, upon
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For One Month, with notice.....£4 0 per cent.
For Two Months.....4 5 per cent.
For Three Months.....4 10 per cent.
For Six Months.....5 0 per cent.

Deposits for longer periods subject to special arrangement.
JOHN SHERIDAN, Actuary.

HANWELL COLLEGE, MIDDLESEX.

Is still retaining its high character.—United Service Ga-
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Bank at SYDNEY, MELBOURNE, GEELONG, MARY-
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DRAFTS of the Australian Colonies negotiated and sent
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By order of the Court,
G. M. BELL, Secretary.

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PERSONS desirous of investing Savings and
Capital are requested to apply for the new Prospectus.
The system is adapted for all classes of the community, and
the business can be as easily carried on by correspondence as
by attendance at the Office, No. 33, Norfolk-street, Strand,
London, W.C. The Society will be found most convenient
as well as eligible, as investors can make use of it either as
a Deposit or Savings Bank, combining a good rate of inter-
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optional, can be acquired in small or large lots by easy
monthly repayments.

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advance and upwards, and four per cent. on Deposits.

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Insurance data show that ONE PERSON in every FIF-
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An Annual Payment of £3 secures
A FIXED ALLOWANCE OF 46 PER WEEK
IN THE EVENT OF INJURY, OR
£1,000 IN CASE OF DEATH FROM
ACCIDENTS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION,
By a Policy in the

**RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE
COMPANY.**

Which has already paid in compensation for Accidents
£37,000.

Forms of Proposal and Prospectuses may be had at the
Company's Offices, and at all the principal Railway Stations,
where, also, Railway Accidents alone may be insured
against by the Journey or year.

NO CHARGE FOR STAMP DUTY.

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and most varied ever submitted to the public, and marked
at prices proportionate with those that have tended to make
his establishment the most distinguished in this country.

Bedsteads, from.....12s. 6d. to 20l. 0s. each.
Shower Baths, from.....8s. 6d. to 6l. 0s. each.
Lamps (Moderators), from.....6s. 6d. to 7l. 7s. each.
(All other kinds at the same rate.)
Pure Colza Oil.....4s. 3d. per gallon.

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may be had gratis, and free by post. It contains upwards
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Dish Covers and Hot Water Dishes, Stoves, Fenders,
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and plans of the sixteen large show-rooms, at 39, Oxford-
street W.; 1, 1A, 2 and 3, Newman-street; and 4, 5, and 6,
Perry's-place, London.—Established 1830.

**GENTLEMEN'S HIGHLAND CAPES
AND OVERCOATS**

suited for all Seasons and Climates,
Made of WATERPROOF SCOTCH TWEEDS in great
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HETTY, from "Adam Bede;" **DINAH**, from
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London: CRAMER, BEALE, and Co., 201, Regent-st.

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CRAMER, BEALE, AND CO. have the best of
every description for Sale or Hire. Cramer, Beale, and
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CRAMER, BEALE, AND CO., are the chief
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AT REASONABLE PRICES,

AT G. BLIGHT'S, 166, FENCHURCH STREET, E.C.

SOHO LOOKING GLASS MANUFACTORY

20, Soho-square, London.—Established 20 years.—The Pro-
prietor begs to call the attention of the public to the
following very reduced List of Prices for LOOKING-
GLASSES, of superior quality, fitted in carefully man-
ufactured carved and gilt frames.

Size of Glass.	Outside Measure of Frame.	Price.
40 by 30 in.	51 in. wide by 39 in. high from	32. 10s. each.
46 by 36 in.	48 in. wide by 58 in. high from	61. 0s. each.
50 by 40 in.	52 in. wide by 60 in. high from	67. 0s. each.
53 by 43 in.	55 in. wide by 65 in. high from	71. 7s. each.
56 by 46 in.	58 in. wide by 69 in. high from	84. 8s. each.
60 by 48 in.	62 in. wide by 74 in. high from	104. 0s. each.
70 by 50 in.	64 in. wide by 84 in. high from	124. 0s. each.

Mahogany dressing and cheval glasses, gilt cornices
girandoles, picture frames, &c., at equally moderate prices.
Merchants and shippers supplied by special contract.

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AND TABLE CUTLERY.**

MAPPIN BROTHERS, Manufacturers by Special Ap-
pointment to the Queen, are the only Sheffield Makers who
supply the consumer in London. Their London Show
Rooms, 67 and 68, King William-street, London-bridge,
contain by far the largest STOCK of ELECTRO-SILVER PLATE
AND TABLE CUTLERY in the World, which is
transmitted direct from their Manufactory, Queen's Cutlery
Works, Sheffield.

	Fiddle	Double	King's	Lily
	Pattern.	Thread.	Pattern.	Pattern.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
12 Table Forks, best quality.	1 16 0	2 14 0	3 0 0	3 12 0
12 Table Spoons do.	1 16 0	2 14 0	3 0 0	3 12 0
12 Dessert Forks do.	1 7 0	2 0 0	2 4 0	2 14 0
12 Dessert Spoons do.	1 7 0	2 0 0	2 4 0	2 14 0
12 Tea Spoons do.	0 10 0	1 4 0	1 7 0	1 16 0
2 Sauce Ladles do.	0 8 0	0 10 0	0 11 0	0 13 0
1 Gravy Spoon do.	0 7 0	0 10 0	0 11 0	0 13 0
4 Salt Spoons (gilt bowls) do.	0 8 0	0 10 0	0 12 0	0 14 0
1 Mustard Spoon do.	0 1 8	0 2 6	0 3 0	0 3 6
1 Pair Sugar Tongs do.	0 3 0	0 5 0	0 6 0	0 7 0
1 Pair Fish Carvers do.	0 1 0	0 1 0	0 14 0	0 18 0
1 Butter Knife do.	0 3 0	0 6 0	0 6 0	0 7 0
1 Soup Ladle do.	0 12 0	0 16 0	0 17 6	0 1 0 0
6 Egg Spoons (gilt) do.	0 10 0	0 15 0	0 18 0	0 1 0

Complete Service.....£10 13 10 15 16 6 17 13 6 21 4 6

Any article can be had separately at the same prices.
One Set of Four Corner Dishes (forming 8 Dishes), 8l. 18s.;
One Set of 4 Dish Covers—viz. one 20 inch, one 15 inch, and
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Tea and Coffee Service, 9l. 10s. A Costly Book of Engrav-
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stamps.

	Ordinary	Medium	Best
	Quality.	Quality.	Quality.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Two Dozen Full-Size Table	2 4 0	3 6 0	4 12 0
Knives, Ivory Handles.....	2 4 0	3 6 0	4 12 0
14 Doz. Full-Size Cheese ditto.	1 4 0	1 14 6	2 11 0
One Pair Regular Meat Carvers	0 7 6	0 11 0	0 15 6
One Pair Extra-Sized ditto.....	0 8 6	0 12 0	0 16 6
One Pair Poultry Carvers.....	0 7 6	0 11 0	0 15 6
One Steel for Sharpening.....	0 0 0	0 4 0	0 6 0

Complete Service.....£4 16 0 18 6 9 16 6
Messrs. Mappin's Table Knives still maintain their unri-
valled superiority; all their blades, being their own Sheffield
manufacture, are of the very first quality, with secure Ivory
Handles, which do not come loose in hot water; and the
difference in price is occasioned solely by the superior
quality and thickness of the Ivory Handles.

MAPPIN BROTHERS, 67 and 68, King William-street,
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MAPPIN'S "SHILLING" RAZORS

Warranted good by the Makers.
MAPPIN'S 2s. RAZORS Shave well for Three Years.
MAPPIN'S 3s. RAZORS (suitable for Hard or Soft Beards) Shave well for Ten Years.

MAPPIN'S DRESSING CASES AND TRAVELLING BAGS.

Gentleman's Leather Dressing Case, fitted.....	£1 1 0
Gentleman's Solid Leather Dressing Case, fitted.....	£2 2 0
Gentleman's Leather Travelling and Dressing Bag, fitted with 16 Articles, Outside Pocket, complete.....	£3 12 0
Do. do. do. with addition of Writing Materials, Patent Ink, and Light, complete.....	£4 10 0
Gentleman's very large, 18 in. Bag, with Dressing and Writing Materials, 21 Articles, Outside Pocket, complete.....	£6 10 0
Gentleman's 16 in. Writing and Dressing Bag, Plated Fittings, best Glass, fitted with 26 Articles, complete.....	£10 0 0
Gentleman's 17 in. Writing and Dressing Bag, fitted with every necessary, very handsome, complete.....	£14 5 0
Enamel Leather Lady's Travelling Bag, 13 in., Lined Silk, fitted with 14 Articles, Outside Pocket, complete.....	£2 15 0
Morocco Leather Lady's Travelling Bag, Lined Silk, fitted with 16 Articles, Outside Pocket, complete.....	£4 4 0
Do. do. do. with addition of Writing Materials, Ink, and Light, complete.....	£5 5 0
Levant Leather Lady's Writing and Dressing Bag, 15 in., fitted with 28 Articles, complete.....	£8 16 0
Levant Leather Lady's Writing and Dressing Bag, 15 in., fitted with 30 Articles, Outside Pockets, complete.....	£12 10 0
Levant Leather Lady's Travelling and Dressing Bag, 15 in., fitted very complete, Silver Tops to Glass and Bottles, Ivory Brushes, very handsome, complete, with Prices attached, forwarded by Post on receipt of Twelve Stamps.	£22 0 0

MAPPIN BROTHERS,
67 and 68, KING WILLIAM STREET, CITY, LONDON.
Manufactory—Queen's Cutlery Works, Sheffield.

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REMOVALS undertaken in town or country, by time or contract, in covered vans, with experienced men, mats, and cases for removals, sent free. Furniture, luggage, &c., warehoused in separate well-ventilated compartments, on very moderate terms. Prospectus at the BEDFORD PANTECHNICON, 194, Tottenham-court-road. N.B.—Furniture, &c., packed for railway or shipment.

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THE PATENT ALBERT PORTABLE LOUNGING CHAIR, the most luxurious and cheapest ever manufactured. Self-propelling Bath, Brighton, and every other description of chair for in and out-door use. Mechanical Chairs and Beds of every description, Perambulators, &c. (the largest assortment in the world), always on hand for sale or hire. Agents:—Messrs. Smith, Taylor, and Co., Bombay, Batavia, Singapore, and Samarang; Messrs. F. W. Browne and Co., Calcutta. Sole Patentee and Manufacturer, J. WARD, 5 and 6, Leicester-square, W.C. Established 99 years.

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—Consisting of Guinea Coat and Vest, Twenty Shilling Trousers and Vest, and Thirty-eight Shilling Whole Suit; well designed from uniform patterns.
LONDON: 86, Oxford-street.
BIRMINGHAM: 21, 22, and 23, New-street.
LEEDS: 42, Briggate.

HYAM and Co.'s CAMBRIDGE SAC and PAGET JACKETS.—The best possible garments for gentlemen's customary in-door or out-door wear. Price 12s. 6d., 16s. 6d., 21s., 25s., and 31s. 6d.

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HYAM and CO.'S True-fitting TROUSERS.—To order, on a self-adjusting and shape-retaining system. Price 17s. 6d.; Vests to match, 8s. 6d.

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HYAM and CO. are connected only with the following Establishments:—

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(Acknowledged as the most comfortable and durable Shirt ever yet produced), made to measure, 6d., 7s. 6d., 8s. 6d., and 10s. 6d. Cards for self-measurement. JOHN RAMPSON, Hosiery, 123, Oxford-street, W.

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1ST SEASON 1880.—The Style and Make of Attire for Gentlemen, Children, Boys, and Elder Youths, are made objects of particular study by the Proprietor, who has now introduced a Spring Stock, which for Extent, Variety, Beauty, and General Excellence, was never equalled. The Plain and Fancy Fabrics, from which the Suits and Garments are manufactured, are all selected from the best textural productions in every variety of pattern.

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Ladies' Habits and Servants' Liveries appropriately designed and elaborately finished at a proportionately economical rate.

LAWRENCE HYAM'S SPECIFIC NOTICE.—The Proprietor would emphatically notify that he is in no way connected with any other House in London. The only Establishments at which L. HYAM'S Good, Fashionable, Economical, and widely Celebrated Attire can be procured, are the following:—

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MAKER OF THE
SIXTEEN SHILLING TROUSERS,
325, OXFORD STREET, LONDON, W.
(Two doors west of the Circus).

Overcoats.....	£2 2 0
Frock Coats.....	2 10 0
Dress Coats.....	2 10 0
Morning Coats.....	2 2 0
Waistcoats.....	0 12 0
Black Dress Trousers.....	1 1 0

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have proved that the supply of the 45s. Black Cloth Frock and Dress Coats are the best in London.
Observe the address—J. SMITH, 38, LOMBARD-STREET.

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KNEE-CAPS, SOCKS, BELTS, &c., as manufactured by SPARKS and SON, are allowed by the leading members of the surgical profession to be the only articles ever invented for giving equal and perfect support in all cases to which they are applied, and are especially recommended to all persons suffering from varicose or enlarged veins, for rheumatic and dropsical affections; and also for relieving weakness of the limbs, &c.—Printed directions for measurements with full particulars and prices, sent post free.—Address, SPARKS and SON, Truss and Patent Surgical Bandage Makers, 28, Conduit-street, Regent-street, London.

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At 47s., 50s., 55s., 60s., and 63s., made to order from materials all Wool, and thoroughly shrank, by B. BENJAMIN, Merchant and Family Tailor, 74, Regent-street, W., are BETTER VALUE than can be procured at any other house in the kingdom. The Two Guinea Dress and Frock Coats, the Guinea Dress Trousers, and the Half-Guinea Waistcoats. N.B.—A Perfect Fit guaranteed.

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In the finest condition, is now being delivered by HARRINGTON, PARKER, and CO. This celebrated Ale, recommended by Baron Liebig and all the Faculty, is supplied in Bottles, and in Casks of 18 gallons and upwards, by HARRINGTON, PARKER, and CO., Wine and Spirit Merchants, 54 Pall-mall, London.

OIL OF HORSE CHESTNUTS.

This recently discovered remedy for GOUT, Rheumatism, Lumbago, Neuralgia, Toothache, &c., applied externally, allays the pain and quickly cures the worst cases. Fresh proofs daily of its wonderful efficacy.

In bottles, 2s. 6d. and 4s. 6d., by post on receipt of stamps. Prepared only by REW and CO., operative chemists, 282, Regent-street. City agents, BUTLER and HARDING, 4, Cheapside.

GLENFIELD PATENT STARCH.

USED IN THE ROYAL LAUNDRY.
And pronounced by HER MAJESTY'S LAUNDRESS to be THE FINEST STARCH SHE EVER USED.

GLENFIELD PATENT STARCH.

SEE THAT YOU GET IT.
As inferior kinds are often substituted.
Sold by all Chandlers, Grocers, &c., &c.
WOTHERSPOON and CO., Glasgow and London.

PROTECTED BY ROYAL LETTERS

PATENT, and received by the most eminent of the Faculty.—Mr. LAWRENCE'S

IMPROVED ARTIFICIAL TEETH,

by the CHEO-PLASTIC process entirely supersede the Soft Gum, and every substance that becomes putrescent in the mouth. Their cleanliness, ease, and comfort render them available in every case, without springs or wires, at less than advertised prices.—PAINLESS TOOTH EXTRACTION by GRADUATED ELECTRICITY is always attended with certainty and success.

Medicated White Gutta-percha Enamel for Decayed and Painful Teeth (by self application) 1s.; post free, fourteen stamps.

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PATENT CORN FLOUR.

The most wholesome part of Indian Corn; prepared to the best Arrow Root; for Breakfast, boiled simply with milk; Dinner or Supper, in puddings, warm or cold, blancmange, cake, &c., and especially suited to the delicacy of children and invalids. The Lowest Rates. "This is superior to anything of the kind known." Sold by Grocers, Chemists, &c., in 16 oz. packets.

BROWN and POLSON,

Paisley; 77A, Market-street, Manchester; Dublin; and 31, Ironmonger-lane, London, E.C.

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A 10-gallon cask (equal to 5 dozens) of the finest SOUTH AFRICAN SHERRY, for Four Guineas, or 20s. per dozen, best Port, 24s. per dozen. Cask or bottle, and case included. Three dozens carriage free. Cash.—HENEKEYS, ABBOTT, and CO., Importers, 22 and 23, High Holborn. Established 1831.

HENEKEYS' COGNAC.

A pure French Brandy, pale or brown, 50s. per gallon, 4s. per dozen. Packages to be returned within three months, or charged 1s. per gallon. Six gallons, the cask included and carriage paid.

HENEKEYS' LONDON BRANDY.

Pale or brown, 14s. per gallon, 30s. per dozen. Three dozens carriage free.

HENEKEYS' LONDON GIN.

As from the still, and the strongest allowed, sweet or dry, 12s. per gallon, 20s. per dozen. Six gallons, the cask included and carriage paid. Country orders must contain a remittance.

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Sent post-free on application.—HENEKEYS, ABBOTT, and CO., Gray's Inn Distillery, 22 and 23, High Holborn, W.C. Established 1831.

WINES FROM SOUTH AFRICA.

DENMAN, INTRODUCER OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN PORT, SHERRY, &c. Twenty Shillings per Dozen, Bottles included.

A pint Sample of each for twenty-four stamps. Wine in Cask forwarded free to any railway station in England.

(Extract from the *Lancet*, July 10th, 1883.)

"THE WINES OF SOUTH AFRICA.—We have visited Mr. Denman's stores, selected in all eleven samples of wine, and have subjected them to careful analysis. Our examination has extended to an estimation of their bouquet and flavour, their acidity and sweetness, the amount of wine stone, the strength in alcohol, and particularly to their purity. We have to state that these wines, though brewed to a much less extent than cherries, are yet, on the average, nearly as strong; that they are pure, wholesome, and perfectly free from adulteration; indeed, considering the low price at which they are sold, their quality is remarkable."

EXCELSIOR BRANDY.

Pale or Brown, 15s. per gallon, or 30s. per dozen. Terms, CASH. Country orders must contain a remittance. Cross cheques "Bank of London." Price Lists, with Dr. Hassall's Analysis, forwarded on application.

JAMES L. DENMAN,

65, Fenchurch-street, corner of Railway-place, London.

CADIZ.

A PURE PALE SHERRY, of the Amontillado character, 31s. per dozen, Cash. We receive a regular and direct shipment of this fine wine.

HENRY BRETT and CO., Importers.

Old Farnival's Distillery, Holborn, E.C.

PURE BRANDY 10s. PER GALLON.

Pale or Brown Eau-de-Vie, of exquisite flavour and great purity, identical indeed in every respect with those choice productions of the Cognac district, which are now difficult to procure at any price, 35s. per dozen, French bottles and case included; or 10s. per gallon.

HENRY BRETT and CO., Old Farnival's Distillery, Holborn.

LAZENBY'S HARVEY'S SAUCE.**IN CHANCERY.**—William Lazenby v.

Charles John Lazenby and Charles Thomas Bell, formerly of Saracen's Head Yard; "The same v. Marshall and Son, of 20, Strand;" "The same v. Charles Kibble, of 1, Broadway, Deptford;"—"PERPETUAL JUNCTIONS" having been GRANTED in three suits to restrain the above-named defendants from selling any Sauce described as or purporting to be Harvey's Sauce, manufactured by E. Lazenby and Son, or any successor to them, or at No. 6, Edwards-street, Portman-square, London, and from using any labels or wrappers similar to those used by the said William Lazenby, or so contrived as by imitation or otherwise to represent the sauce sold to be the same as "Lazenby's Harvey's Sauce," prepared at 6, Edwards-street aforesaid.—Notice is hereby given to the trade and the public, that legal proceedings will be taken against all persons who shall hereafter use or imitate the labels or wrapper belonging to E. Lazenby and Son, or sell any sauce (not made at the original warehouse) in such manner as to represent it to be the genuine Harvey's Sauce, prepared by E. Lazenby and Son, or by their successors, William Lazenby, of No. 6, Edwards-street, Portman-square, London.

SMITH and SHEPHERD, Plaintiff's Solicitors.

March, 1889.

By Her Majesty's Royal Letters Patent.

CONDY'S PATENT CONCENTRATED**PURE MALT VINEGAR,**

As supplied to Her Majesty's Government, the Council for India, the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, the United States Mail Steamers, Prison, Poor Law Unions, Hospitals, Public Institutions, the principal Club Houses, &c., &c., is the only Pure Malt Vinegar made or to be obtained. Vinegar, in its ordinary state, is water and poisonous acids. This Vinegar does not contain any impurity or adulterating ingredient whatever, and families, by using this delicious vinegar, ensure purity, and effect a saving of 50 per cent. See reports of Dr. Lazenby, City Officer of Health, Dr. Hassall, of the "Lancet," Commission, Dr. J. M.D., F.R.S., and many others. Sold by the Trade, in bottles, labelled and capped. Wholesale, 63, King William-street, London-bridge, E.C. Six-Quart Sample sent to any Railway for 3s. 6d.

THE LEADER.

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Review of the Week.

THE long delay which was beginning to try the patience of not a few even of the peace-loving of our countrymen, appears to be rapidly drawing to a close, judging by the most recent intelligence from the seat of war. The many changes and shiftings of the Austrian position and line of defence, if it can be said to have had either, up to within a few days past, would seem not to have been without object. If, as a late telegram from Pavia informs us, a collision between the Austrian and Franco-Sardinian armies was expected on Thursday, or, at the latest, on Friday, the conclusion is pretty clear that the battle would have to be fought somewhere in the neighbourhood of that city, and with no small advantage on the side of the Austrian Commander-in-Chief as to position; that is what he has gained by the seemingly confused and purposeless tactics which he has been employing almost from the day he first crossed the Ticino.

In other respects, General Gyulai, if we may put my trust in "official" information, may count his gains by waggon-loads, for the report is, that he has almost entirely exhausted the track of country over which his hungry regiments have passed. The correspondent of the *Times*, who follows the steps of the Croat general, tells preposterous stories of the delight with which the Austrians are everywhere received by the Piedmontese, who, he says, look upon them as their natural deliverers from the despotism under which they groan as the subjects of King Victor Emmanuel. The man is, of course, either gulled by the people he talks with in the Austrian camp, or he is attempting to gull the readers of the *Times*. In either case, the question that first suggests itself is the same: what is the *Times* about, to permit such monstrous lies to appear in its pages?

A telegram from Berne (not the best authority, it must be admitted) states that, so far from the Piedmontese taking delight in the presence of the Austrian hordes, General Gyulai is nearly at his last shift to get from them supplies for his ravenous soldiers. The telegram adds, that it will not be possible for the Austrian Commander-in-Chief to hold his position in Piedmont for more than fifteen days longer—a statement that must be accepted with a very large grain of salt. Within the time named, in all probability, other causes will have made it advisable for General Gyulai to place his troops within reach of the well-stored magazines of Lombardy. Several of the more recent telegrams state that he has made good provision for retreat.

Meantime, the finances of the Austrian treasury

are in a desperate state of collapse, and a new loan is to be screwed out of unhappy Lombardy. The sum demanded this time is seventy-five millions of florins.

The circumstances connected with the publication of the French loan are like the incidents of a romance of money. Five hundred millions of francs were asked for the purpose of making war in Italy; and, lo! about five times the sum is eagerly pressed upon the Imperial Government. Precisely stated, the capital subscribed was, at the close of the subscription list, on the 15th instant, 2,307,000,000 fr., advanced by 525,000 persons, 244,129 in Paris, and 281,000 in the departments; of these, 375,000 were subscribers for 10fr. of *rente*, while 150,000 were subscribers for larger sums; results that show, says the *Moniteur*, "the intimate union of France and the Emperor, and the entire confidence of the nation in the strength and wisdom of the sovereign who presides over its destinies." Beloved or hated, trusted or feared, it is certain that Napoleon III. has a wonderful opportunity for retrieving the past. Will he take advantage of it? Otherwise, let him lose a great battle with the Austrians, and woe to him and to his dynasty.

Events are gathering; and the game which for the moment seems to show favourably for him, may be taken out of his hands. The position of Prussia is becoming more and more a grave matter for the rest of Europe. In closing the Diet on Saturday last, the Prince Regent made a speech, which was certainly anything but pacific in spirit. "The attitude of the army and the spirit which animates it," he said, "fill me with confidence, whatever may be the events which the future has in store for us. I know that when the country shall require its services, the army will not remain behind the deeds of arms and military prowess of our fathers." In the meantime, Prussia is opposing the right of her influence to prevent the acceptance by the Federal Diet of the proposition made by Hanover to form a federal *corps d'armée* of observation on the Rhine. That which gives the gravest importance to the movements of Prussia is the fact that Russia has just placed five *corps d'armée* on a war footing, calling in all reserves, and making other arrangements for being in a state of readiness to march within three months. The destination of these troops will determine the course of Prussia.

The week at home has been very full of event, although nothing of momentous importance has occurred. Nearly all the elections are over, and Liberals and Conservatives have the results in black and white before them. The Conservative party takes into the House some seventeen additional members, but they start in an ugly minority

of fifty-six; the general result being that, practically, they are not in any better position than they were before Lord Derby dissolved the late House. Still we hear of "understandings" between the Premier and Lord Palmerston as the basis upon which the present Ministry will manoeuvre to keep Lord John Russell from power. For the sake of the Liberal party, we heartily wish that Lord Palmerston would go over to the Treasury benches; unfortunately there is no chance of his doing so; but there is too much likelihood that he will soon be doing something on his own account, the effects of which will be felt in a renewal of the disunion which has so long paralysed the action of the Liberal party.

Relieved from the trouble and excitement of the elections, the country is devoting itself with growing earnestness to the duty of providing for its own defence in the face of the assured possibility of foreign invasion. All the great towns are arranging for the organisation of rifle corps, and the daily newspapers teem with letters of advice and inquiry as to the most effectual mode of arming and dressing the volunteers who are hastening to enrol themselves. The movement, which is in every way a salutary one, appears to express a truly national feeling.

Another feeling, equally genuine, is also finding expression in all the leading cities and towns of the kingdom; that is, the desire of the people that this country should be kept out of the present Continental imbroglio. Several of the large towns have resolved to address her Majesty, praying her to carry out the desire of her people in this respect, and other towns are likely to follow the same course.

Meantime, her Majesty has published a Royal Proclamation, announcing her intention to preserve a strict neutrality, and warning her subjects of the pains and penalties to which they will subject themselves by doing anything against the laws which govern the intercourse of neutral states. The shipowners of England are made very anxious by this proclamation, for they cannot precisely determine what they may or may not do in the way of their calling, without making themselves liable to the law of contraband. The Foreign Office is not able to determine the point; and the only way out of the difficulty appears to be that which has been suggested by the *Shipping Gazette*, namely, for our Government to call upon the belligerent Powers to name the articles which they determine to consider as contraband of war. At present there is a doubt whether even coals may not come within the circle of prohibition.

Perhaps the most notable item of the week's home news is the account of Tantia Toppe's summary trial and execution, which has reached us by the Bombay mail. Opinion will be divided in this country as to whether his crime was of a nature to call for such a punishment; it will, however, be time to discuss the question when the fuller details of his trial and death reach us. Meanwhile, it is interesting to know that, while admitting that he was associated with the Nana Sahib at the time of the Cawnpore massacre, he denies that either he or the Nana had anything to do with that atrocity.

Home News.

THE ELECTIONS.

At the Cirencester Petty Sessions, on Monday, Mr. Henry Pole, of Stratton, near Cirencester, and three of his servants, were summoned under the Corrupt Practices Prevention Act, for having, by abduction and contrivance, interfered with the free exercise of the franchise by John Kibblewhite, of Cirencester, an old labourer, who deposed that the day before the election he was sent for to Mr. Pole's house to open a drain. The woman servant gave him some tea which he says, stupefied him. He was then sent to a public house, the landlady of which was told that he was ill, and to give him twenty drops of laudanum in some rum, the next morning. Eventually he got to the hustings in time, and voted. The magistrate committed the three servants, but admitted them to bail. They considered that there was no evidence against Mr. Pole.

The *Cork Examiner*, in announcing the death of Mr. Fagan, M.P. for that city, says that the Liberal party are prepared with a candidate in the person of Dr. Lyons. Mr. B. H. Carroll and Mr. Hood are also canvassing.

The last of the elections, that for Kilkenny County, has taken place; and the following list, in addition to what has already appeared, in our columns, completes the returns of members for the new Parliament:—

IRELAND.

Places.	Representatives.	L.	C.
KILKENNY (Co.)	Hon. L. Agar Ellis, L.	1	—
	Mr. J. Greene, L.	1	—
KINGS County . .	Mr. P. O'Brien, L.	1	—
	Mr. Henessey, L.	1	—
LIMERICK (Co.)	Mr. Monsell, L.	1	—
	Colonel Dickson, C.	—	1
LONDONDERRY (County)	Sir F. Heygate, C.	—	1
LOUTH (County)	Mr. C. S. Fortescue, L.	1	—
	Mr. Bellew, L.	1	—
MAYO (County)	Lord J. Browne, L.	1	—
	Mr. R. W. Palmer, C.	—	1
ROSCOMMON (County)	Colonel French, L.	1	—
	Captain Goff, C.	—	1
SLIGO (County)	Sir R. G. Booth, C.	—	1
	Mr. E. J. Cooper, C.	—	1
WEXFORD (Co.)	Mr. P. McMahon	1	—
	Mr. George, C.	—	1

The total number of members returned is:—

Liberals	353
Conservatives	302

The House of Commons consists of 654 members; but the above figures give a total of 655, which is occasioned by a double return for Aylesbury—two of the candidates, one a Liberal and the other a Conservative, having received an equal number of votes.

POLITICAL FORESHADOWINGS.

SIR JAMES GRAHAM AND THE MINISTERS.—Sir John Pakington and General Peel have both written to Sir James upon the subject of some statements advanced by him in his Carlisle speech. Sir John Pakington is hurt by Sir James's assertion that—"Captain Carnegie informed the First Lord of the Admiralty he had made inquiries at Dover, and he was satisfied success was impossible without the use of means which, as a man of honour, he could not use. The First Lord of the Admiralty said 'There is no option,' and intimated that he must go to Dover." Sir John declares this imputation to be totally unfounded. General Peel denies that the increased allowance of billet money to publicans was given for electioneering purposes, since it was promised in the House of Commons in February last; the statement of Sir James Graham as to the new barracks at Berwick he also contradicts. Sir James has apologised to both the right hon. gentlemen.

SIR CHARLES WOOD, M.P.—At an election dinner the right hon. bart. congratulated the electors of West Yorkshire on the result of the poll, and said, "When defeated on the Reform Bill, Government appealed to the country to reverse the decision of the House of Commons. Their answer, at least, could not be misunderstood. The Government were anxious to escape from the issue which the decision of the House of Commons raised. They said they did not appeal to the country on that bill, but on the merits of the Government. Well, let them weigh the Government on such grounds. There were three measures of importance which they brought before the House, and what was the result? There was, first, the India Bill, which was rejected with contempt and ridicule; next they brought in a Church-rate Bill, which satisfied nobody, and it was thrown out; the third measure was the Reform Bill, of which he would say nothing but this, that if it

had been passed they would have been better without the Reform Bill of 1832. Did it ever happen to any Government in this country, or in the world, that upon three great questions their measures should be so ill-considered, so ill-calculated to meet with the approval of the people, that every one of them failed? Before the dissolution they were told that the Government ought to be kept in power, because there was only one man who could maintain the peace of Europe, and that was Lord Malmesbury. Well, the voice of England in Parliament, which might have had some weight, was silenced by the dissolution, and within ten days war was declared. Did they approve the appointments of the Government when they put into a high judicial situation a man who knew little or nothing of law, having only held a clerkship in an office, and the very mention of which appointment caused him to give it up? Did they approve the manner in which a great department over which he had once the honour of presiding was made the arena of political jobbery? These were probably not the grounds on which the Government appealed to the country, but they were at least the facts most patent to all men, and he congratulated the electors of the West Riding on the answer which they had given, by sending two men who would say, "Forbearing have we been, long-suffering have we been, a fair trial have we given you, but your own acts are the strongest condemnation which could be passed upon any Government." Let the Government take it which way they liked; they had asked the constituency of the West Riding what they thought of the Reform Bill, and what they thought of the Government. There could be no doubt as to the answer. They rejected the one and condemned the other.

LORD CHARLES RUSSELL, M.P.—At Bedford the noble lord has delivered a speech in which he was very hard upon Lord Derby for dissolving Parliament, and laid at his door the responsibility of the complications now existing on the European continent. Lord Charles also delivered a vindication of his brother's policy. He said, The limits of an after-dinner speech will not allow me to attempt even a sketch of my brother's Parliamentary life. We can't put the contents of an encyclopedia into the narrow dimensions of a penny tract; but did time permit I could desire no more grateful theme. During a long political life of more than forty years, Lord John has not laboured in vain for a generous and a grateful people. And now a word or two about foreign policy. War is abroad, and the only circumstance that cheers me is, that we seem to have no reason to take part in the present war. We can have no interest in Austria, that most hopeless of all governments, that has so systematically suppressed the liberty of a noble people in the fairest portion of the globe. Nor can we feel much hope in the liberty of one nation gained by the arms of another, nor in the truth of France, with liberty on her lips and despotism on her brow. The application of all this is—that Austria represents the old Tories of this country, and France their present race, with reform in their mouths and reaction in their hearts. We can have no sympathy with either. Then let us take our stand, not in the armed neutrality of Lord Derby, but in the strict neutrality of Lord John Russell; and while the despotic nations of the continent are on the full march of retrogression, let us free islanders rest secure within our double wall of sea and ships, and at the dictate of our old reforming statesman, so busy ourselves with measures of internal reform as to be a beacon to the nations, burning bright above the lurid glare of war, and teaching that the best hope of a free people is the freedom of her institutions,—her best security, the timely extension of their basis.

MR. URQUHART.—This eccentric gentleman delivered the concluding portions of his lecture on the War in Italy last night. Amid much that was strange and incomprehensible in his address there were some passages which displayed both reason and eloquence.

CHATHAM.—The Liberals of Chatham, believing that their recent defeat at the election was partly owing to the want of a thorough organisation of the party, have resolved to form a Liberal Association to remedy that defect. A meeting was held on Monday night, and it was unanimously resolved to form an association, to be supported by voluntary contributions.

MEETINGS ON THE WAR.—At a meeting of the Plymouth town-council last week, a memorial to Government was adopted, to the effect that it is no part of the duty of England to meddle in the contest now going on.—Public meetings advocating non-intervention have, also, been well attended at Manchester and Nottingham, and resolutions passed to that effect.—A great non-intervention meeting has been held at Norwich. An address to the Queen, in favour of abstinence from the present war, was adopted unanimously.

GATHERINGS FROM LAW AND POLICE COURTS.

At the Central Criminal Court on Saturday Wagner and his accomplices were tried and found guilty on another charge of forgery. Wagner and Bateman were then sentenced to be transported for life; Humphries for twenty years; and ten years' penal servitude was awarded to the other two prisoners.—The man Hughes who mutilated the pictures in Marylebone Church, and is supposed to have perpetrated the outrage at the Colosseum, was tried on the former charge on Saturday. He was found guilty, and as he was obviously insane, he was simply ordered to be detained during her Majesty's pleasure.—Joseph A. Zalmanovic, clerk, was found guilty of stealing 1,650l. in bank-notes; sentence deferred.

At the Court of Bankruptcy the proceedings upon a fresh petition for a winding-up order against the Metropolitan Saloon Omnibus Company have resulted in the petition being dismissed with costs.

At the Surrey Sessions on Wednesday Walter Rogers and John Baker, known as the "Camberwell house-breakers," were found guilty of breaking into and robbing several houses in that neighbourhood. Several skeleton keys and other burglars' implements were found upon them, and it being proved that they were bad characters, the Chairman sentenced each to six years' penal servitude.

CRIMINAL RECORD.

A poor woman, named Martha Page, was stabbed in the street at Howard-road, Hornsey, by her brother-in-law, Samuel Adams, and died in the hospital on Saturday. Adams, who is a morose, drunken savage, when charged before Mr. Tyrwhitt, at Clerkenwell, on the same day, with the crime of murder, seemed to be the least concerned about the matter of any one in court. The magistrate remanded the case till to-day.

On Saturday a convict, named Henry Edmonds, made his escape from the Model Prison, Pentonville. He succeeded in getting over the top of the wall, which is some 25 feet or more in height. He then hailed a cab, and directed the driver to proceed to Greek-street, Soho, and at a pawnbroker's he pledged some false teeth which he wore for 7s., paying the cabman 3s. Evans then disappeared, and nothing has been heard of him since.

Among the crimes and casualties of the day is to be recorded the suicide of an officer at Canterbury—Cornet A. J. Bourke Fellowes, of the 1st Dragoon Guards. The poor fellow was subject to certain unpleasant visits of the sheriff's officer, which he had not the courage to meet, and he took a carbine and shot himself through the head.

A dreadful murder was committed at Ledbury, in Herefordshire, on Tuesday night. The offices of Mr. Masfield, solicitor, were broken into and robbed, and the housekeeper, a woman of fifty years of age, was found in the morning dead. It was evident that she had been strangled; in addition to which her clothes had been set fire to, and the body and the floor of the room were half consumed. No trace of the guilty persons has been discovered.

A person of gentlemanly appearance honoured an hotel at Weymouth under the assumed name of Lord Henley, and ingratiated himself with the landlord. Upon settling his account, "Lord" Henley drew a cheque for 40l. upon Messrs. Ransome and Co., which turned out to be a forgery. At another place he assumed the title of Lord Langley, and obtained 5l. on a forged cheque. Under the name of Lord Lilford, at Torquay, he gave a cheque for 15l. on Coutts's, received 10l. change, and has not since been heard of.

ACCIDENTS.

THE inquest on the bodies of the five unfortunate men who lost their lives through the breaking down of a scaffold at the Westminster Palace Hotel was opened on Saturday evening, and adjourned till the 23rd inst. The coroner issued an order for the bodies of the deceased persons to be delivered up to their friends.

The coroner's inquest on the bodies of the unfortunate men who were killed by the explosion at the Hounslow powder-mills was brought to a termination on Tuesday. The jury returned a verdict declaring that the deaths had been occasioned by the explosion of gunpowder, but that there were no means to show how the accident had taken place. They further cast censure upon the way in which the works had been managed.

A sad event occurred in the Bay of Biscay on the 16th. Admiral Thornton, one of the directors of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Company, had been out to Alexandria in the Ripon for a trip. The gallant admiral appeared to be in his usual health and spirits, and was pacing the deck on Monday. Suddenly he was missed, and there is little doubt of his having fallen overboard. The body was not seen afterwards.

At Lincoln, on Wednesday, a fire broke out on the premises of Mr. Spencer, druggist, immediately adjoining the post office. Water was obtained from the Hydrants of the Waterworks Company, but the supply was very ineffective, and the premises were totally destroyed, as was also the post-office. The letters were saved, and a temporary post-office was established at the Corn Exchange. The damage is estimated at several thousand pounds.

NAVAL AND MILITARY.

A COMPANY of Royal Engineers has been ordered to Weymouth, for the purpose of putting the line of coast in that neighbourhood in a thorough state of defence, and erecting batteries and earthworks for mounting heavy guns. The defence of the arsenal at Pembroke and the protection of Milford Haven also appear to have engaged the attention of the authorities, for new works for their better fortification are to be immediately commenced.

The naval pensioners residing in the Isle of Sheppey district have received orders to present themselves for the purpose of ascertaining the number who may be found efficient for home or harbour service.

Volunteers for the navy continue to join daily in large numbers at London, Liverpool, Portsmouth, and other ports. A large number of boys and landmen are being admitted, as well as A. B.'s and ordinary seamen.

The Queen reviewed 12,000 troops at Aldershot on Monday, accompanied by the Prince Consort and the Duke of Cambridge. The troops were marshalled in one horse and three foot brigades, and amongst these "Caesar's Camp" was an object of fierce contention in the course of the mock battle. The Cavalry Brigade, commanded by Major-General Lawrence, consisted of the Fourth Dragoon Guards, the Tenth Hussars, and a troop of Horse Artillery. The First Foot Brigade, commanded by Lord W. Paulet, C.B., of the 4th, 11th, and 36th of the line, the First Staffordshire Militia, and the North Cork Rifles. The second brigade, commanded by Major-General Spencer, C.B., included battalions of the 9th and 11th of the line, the West York Rifles, the East Kent and Oxfordshire Militia. This brigade was strengthened by a battery of artillery. The third brigade, under the command of Major-General Lawrence, C.B., was made up of the 47th of the line, the 100th (Canadian) Regiment, the Antrim Rifles, and Stirlingshire Militia. This brigade was also attended by a battery. The review was unmarked by any display of popular feeling, or even curiosity. It was dull, cold, and spiritless throughout; and there were not above 300 spectators spread over the grounds, and these for the most part belonged to the neighbouring villages. The few who left Waterloo station for the camp by the eight o'clock train were military men. Immediately after the sham fight her Majesty departed for Farnborough, and in less than an hour the royal party arrived in town.

A series of experimental practice with the Armstrong gun is daily carried out at Shoeburyness, where the extensive range affords the necessary facilities for instructing the Royal Artillery in the use of this weapon. It has also been decided, as soon as practicable, to introduce the Armstrong gun into the naval service.

The naval defences in the Australian waters have been strengthened, and are now under a commodore's command. An admiral's station on the Australian coast has been determined upon.

The Mediterranean fleet consists of ten sail of the line, three heavy frigates, besides small fry. Three more line-of-battle ships are expected out immediately. The present stations of the fleet are—Off Malta: The Marlborough, flag ship, 131; the Princess Royal, 90; the Renown, 90; the Victor Emmanuel, 90; the Brunswick, 80; the St. Jean d'Acre, 100; the Gannet, 22, screw frigate. At Leghorn: The Conqueror, 100. At Naples: The Centurion, 80. At Genoa: The Orion, 90, and the Terrible, steam frigate. The Euryalus is expected at Malta daily. The smaller vessels are constantly on the move; they are the Osprey, Vigilant, Lapwing, Ariel, Argus, Scourge, Caradoc, Boxer, Medina, and Tartarus. In Malta harbour: The Hibernia, flag ship of Admiral Codrington. The French fleet in the Mediterranean, ready for sea and manned—most of them being at sea—consist of nine sail of the line, with the proper proportion of small vessels.

THE VOLUNTEER RIFLE CORPS.

This patriotic movement is daily acquiring strength and popularity, but there seems to be a general opinion that some alteration must be made in the law as to Volunteer regiments. At present the whole expense of arms and accoutrements is thrown upon the individuals who offer themselves, the Government giving no assistance whatever; and this of course will have the effect of excluding many a brave and stalwart working man, who would have been glad to shoulder a rifle for Old England. In

some instances the richer members of the rifle corps offer to pay for the poorer: but this is a tax which ought not to be necessary and which cannot fail to depress the martial spirit which should be fostered by Government.

The example of Cambridge is about to be followed by the members of the University of Oxford, the authorities having given their adhesion to the project. A committee is about to be formed.

The *United Service Gazette* says:—An order has been issued for the removal of the military stores which lie in the Tower moat. We consider this is preparatory to serving out the 50,000 muskets which the gentlemen from the War-office told the Commission were useless—excepting in case of an invasion!

A project was set on foot for the formation of a rifle corps in Birmingham, and a meeting held on Saturday. There was some difference of opinion as to the mode of proceeding, and it was suggested that the mayor should be requested to convene a town's meeting on the subject; but ultimately it was resolved that the lord-lieutenant of the county should be consulted, and with the view to this an adjournment took place.

On Friday an influential meeting was held at Hastings, for the formation of a volunteer rifle club. The various speakers gave the Government credit, and thought the Act would not allow of their doing more than they had done. A provisional committee was appointed to consider the proposed rules and to petition Parliament to pass a new Act suited to the requirements of the present emergency.

The Edinburgh Highland Society have enrolled a rifle company of kilted Scots to be commanded by officers of the army. The colours of the old Edinburgh Highland regiment, now in the Castle, will be applied for, and then additional kilted companies, to be called Clunys, Rosses, Craigeivars, &c., will be added, if sufficient members join.

At Liverpool a rifle club has been in existence for several years, and numbers a hundred members, who will form the nucleus of a fine regiment. The Manchester men propose to raise a corps armed with Whitworth's new rifle, of which wonders are told. Enthusiastic meetings have been held at Reading and Wolverhampton, and a second meeting at Birmingham.

At Bristol more than 200 gentlemen have sent in their names to form a corps, and the number is daily increasing. Of this volunteer regiment, two retired army officers—Majors Bush and Savile—are to be the Lieut.-Colonel and Major.

Great pains have been taken lately by the commandants of yeomanry cavalry to make the troops under their care highly efficient. Major Deedes, commanding the East Kent regiment, announced the other day, that Government were about to call out all the yeomanry corps for permanent duty. Some of these are exceedingly well appointed, and armed with rifled carbines.

In addition to the University, the city of Oxford has started a rifle corps of its own. The movement has been responded to at Tynemouth, Stafford, Belfast, and Leicester.

The Hon. Artillery Company paraded in full dress on Thursday, and fired a *feu de joie* in honour of the Queen's birthday. The regiment now numbers 400 gentlemen, in a high state of efficiency both as infantry soldiers and artillerymen. It is proposed to increase the corps very largely with rifle volunteers.

To the list of places which we have already given as having taken steps for the formation of volunteer corps must be added Tenby and Saundersfoot. In South Essex, also, the preliminary steps have been taken.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.

THE COURT.—The event of the week at Court has, of course, been the celebration of her Majesty's birthday, which was kept throughout the kingdom with the usual honours. The birthday drawing-room was a very crowded and brilliant assemblage, though the pleasure of the spectators was marred by the unfavourable weather. State dinners in honour of the day were given by the Ministers, and the illuminations were very splendid at the west-end of the town. The Queen held a court on Wednesday, to receive the new French Ambassador, M. de Persigny; and on the same day arrived, on a visit to her Majesty, the Prince and Princess George of Saxony and the Duke of Oporto. The Queen gave a grand dinner the same evening, at which most of the Ministers and the foreign Ambassadors assisted.

THE PRINCE OF WALES.—We hear that the Prince is about to make a short tour in Spain. He arrived at Gibraltar, in the Scourge, on the 7th inst., and a review, balls, and illuminations were the order of the day at that place.

MEETING OF PARLIAMENT.—The new Parliament will assemble on Tuesday week, and after a week or ten days occupied in administering the oaths, the business of the session will be proceeded with.—It

is expected that the Queen's Speech will be delivered on the 7th of June. The days between the 31st and 7th will probably be occupied in swearing in the members of both Houses. The election of Speaker will take place on the 31st. No objection to the re-election of Mr. Speaker Denison is anticipated.

HOP DUTIES.—Mr. Disraeli has returned an unfavourable reply to the memorial of the hop planters for a remission of the duties. It is, however, believed that he will postpone their payment; and another memorial has been addressed to him with that object.

PUBLIC HEALTH.—The Registrar-General's report again presents an improving view of the public health, the deaths last week having been 1,070, or 38 less than the previous week, and 86 below the periodical average. There was a slight decline in the number of deaths from scarlatina and diphtheria. The number of births was 1,816. The report of Dr. Letheby for the City is also satisfactory.

COURT OF ALDERMEN.—The Court met on Tuesday, the Lord Mayor presiding.—Mr. W. Gresham was sworn in as High Bailiff of Southwark. A petition was presented, complaining of the conduct of James Nicholl and Robert Frazer North, brokers. Some proceedings took place thereupon, but the consideration of the petition was finally adjourned for a month. A report was brought up from the gaol committee, relative to the election of a governor of Newgate. The report was adopted, and the election ordered to take place at the next meeting of the court. A report on the regulation of the street traffic was brought up, but its consideration was postponed, and the court adjourned.

LOSS OF THE GENERAL WILLIAMS.—On Tuesday, the Board of Trade forwarded to Lloyd's a copy of the official report which Mr. Traill, police magistrate, and Captain Walker, nautical assessor, had made respecting the loss of this screw steamer, which foundered 200 miles eastward of Malta. In this report the loss of the vessel is ascribed to improper loading, which not being in consequence of any wrongful act or default of the captain, his certificate was returned to him.

CORPORATION OF THE SONS OF THE CLERGY.—On Wednesday, the Lord Mayor, sheriffs, and corporation proceeded in state to St. Paul's Cathedral, for the purpose of taking part in the annual festival of the Sons of the Clergy. They were met at the entrance by the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of London, the Bishop of Carlisle, the Dean of St. Paul's, and other ecclesiastical dignitaries, and the procession moved into the large open space under the dome, which was fitted up in the style adopted at the late special Sunday evening services. Full choral service was performed. The sermon was preached by the Rev. Daniel Moore, M.A. The society, which has been in operation for upwards of two centuries, annually assists, by pensions and donations, about 1,250 persons—clergymen, their widows, aged single daughters, and children. There was a very large assemblage present, and a liberal collection was made at the close of the ceremony. In the evening the annual dinner took place in the Merchant Taylors' Hall, under the presidency of the Lord Mayor.

THE PEACE SOCIETY.—This Society is not yet defunct, though little has been heard of it lately. This week it held its anniversary meeting at Finsbury Chapel. The resolutions asserted that it was the duty of this country to maintain a strict neutrality during the present continental war, and denounced the gigantic system of military armaments now existing as the fertile source of war, and the great enemy of human progress. The resolutions were unanimously adopted, and the meeting, we suppose, must be considered a successful one, although the proceedings naturally assumed, under present circumstances, somewhat of a funeral character.

THE CLERKSHIP OF THE COUNCIL.—We learn that Mr. C. C. Greville retires upon a pension from the office of Clerk of the Council after a service of thirty-seven years. The commission appointed some time ago reported as their opinion that the post in question should not be filled up after Mr. Greville ceased to hold it. Nevertheless, it has already been rumoured that Lord Robert Cecil would be appointed Clerk of the Council. The *Times* says:—"Lord Robert Cecil is the son of the Marquis of Salisbury; his father, as Lord President of the Council, appoints him to the vacant clerkship; Lord Robert Cecil's appointment to be Clerk in Council will make a vacancy at Stamford, Availing himself of the opportunity offered by the appointment of Lord Robert Cecil, Mr. Stuart Wortley will, it is now said, at an early day seek the suffrages of the independent electors of Stamford."

SOCIETY OF ARTS.—At the usual weekly meeting, held on Wednesday, Sir John Rennie, F.R.S., in the chair, the paper read was "On the relative value of coal and coke in locomotive engines," by Mr. Benjamin Fothergill. The author's object in this paper

was to lay before the society the results of a series of experiments which he had made with coal and coke in locomotive engines, and which had led him to the conclusion that coal was decidedly superior to coke in respect to heating power, and consequently more economical. A discussion ensued, in which Messrs. John Grantham, John Braithwaite, John Bethell, George Lowe, F.R.S., Professor John Wilson, F.R.S.E., J. Greaves, Mr. Duncan, and the Chairman took part.

THE NINE HOURS' MOVEMENT.—On Wednesday a meeting of workmen was held in Exeter-hall for the purpose of making the "Nine Hours' Movement" general. The chairman said the meeting had been convened by the united building trades, in consequence of the master builders, at their meeting on the 20th ult., having passed resolutions saying that the workmen did not join in the "Nine Hours' Movement." Resolutions in favour of the movement were put and carried. An amendment was proposed and seconded, entreating the meeting not to come into collision with the masters; but upon being put it was lost.

AN ALLEGED DAUTHIN.—An old man named Meves, who has for some years past carried on the profession of a teacher of music in Tottenham-court-road died suddenly in a cab this week. His son was most particular in demanding a careful register of the marks on the body of the deceased and made the following extraordinary statement. "My father always led us to believe, from the marks on his person and other circumstances, that he was Louis Charles de Bourbon, son of Louis the Sixteenth, King of France, and he has lately written his life, which is at the present time in the hands of Mr. Bentley, the publisher, of New Burlington-street. Such is my sworn evidence."

PLAYGROUND AND RECREATION SOCIETY.—This society was established two years ago, and its object is to furnish the means of healthful and innocent recreation for the poor children of London, and other large and thickly populated cities, free from the mental contamination and the bodily danger which attach to the present custom of playing in the crowded streets without protection or supervision. On Thursday evening the second anniversary of the society was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, under the presidency of the Marquis of Westminster. The subscriptions of the evening were reported at 2644. 17s.

Foreign News.

THE WAR.

FRANCE.

THE WAR LOAN.—REINFORCEMENTS FOR THE ARMY.

The *Moniteur* of Tuesday contains a report of the Minister of Finance respecting the subscriptions made towards the new loan. The subscribed capital amounts to 2,307,000,000f. 80,000,000f. have been subscribed in sums of 10f. *rente*. The number of subscribers is 525,000. The Ministerial report points out that such results prove the solidity of the French financial system.

The races at Chantilly commenced on Sunday. The weather was dull and cold all day, with frequent and rather heavy showers, but the attendance was good, and the running is said to have been excellent. Baron Niviere's horse *Geologie* was very successful, and is spoken of as not unlikely to be a favourite for the French Derby.

It is announced that the Minister of Marine has addressed instructions to Admiral Rigault de Genouilly directing him to return to France with his entire fleet.

Meantime very little reliable information is received in Paris from the seat of war, and the Government are determined that no news but their own shall be allowed. Marshal Randon, Minister of War, has addressed a circular to the colonels commanding regiments in Italy, forbidding any officer to correspond with a newspaper. It is said that the confidence in the success of the army in Italy is so great, that preparations are soon to be made at Notre Dame for a *Te Deum* in thanksgiving for a great victory, which is expected to be announced in the course of next week. Unless some such event speedily takes place it is very doubtful whether the enthusiasm of the French people will not subside more rapidly than the Emperor will find convenient. As long as the Allies are prevented from entering Lombardy all the supplies will have to come from France, or to be purchased with French money. Feeding the army will be the most difficult and costly problem which the Emperor will have to solve. And it remains to be seen how the nation will relish being compelled to make the heavy payments that will be required for that purpose, and for an object which many do not hesitate to affirm does not directly concern them.

The prospect of having to support the war, which may be both long and costly, has cooled down the cry for Italian nationality. The war is not so popular, says a correspondent, among the officers of the army as it is represented to be. The reason will be obvious when it is remembered that most of the officers spring from the *bourgeoisie*, and that their pecuniary position in life is dependent upon the prosperity of trade.

It is rumoured that four new Marshals of France will soon be nominated, viz., Prince Napoleon, and Generals de MacMahon, Niel, and Regnaud de Saint Jean d'Angely.

The Paris correspondent of a contemporary says, that a great sensation was caused by the arrival in hot haste from Alessandria of one of the Emperor's own aide-de-camps. This gentleman remained the whole of the next day closeted with the Minister of War, and set off again in the same hot haste for Alessandria. Men most versed in these matters declare that the general was dispatched with orders to hurry on to Italy all that can be spared of the French army—particularly artillery, which is still deficient. Algiers has given up the best portion of its defenders, and the other colonies long since despoiled of their troops, which had always been regarded as necessary to their safety till they were wanted elsewhere.

AUSTRIA.

RESIGNATION OF COUNT BUOL.—BLOCKADE OF VENICE.

The Emperor Francis Joseph was to leave for the war in Italy on Wednesday. The strength of the seven corps of the Austrian army in the north of Italy is said to be 250,000 men, and it is provided with a magnificent artillery train.

The *Wiener Zeitung* announces that his Imperial Majesty has, in compliance with Count Buol's request, graciously relieved that Minister from the duties of the office hitherto held by him. Count Rechberg is appointed the Minister for Foreign Affairs, in place of Count Buol. Failing health was the only cause of Count Buol's request to be relieved from the office of Foreign Minister. His resignation occasions no change in the principles of Austrian policy.

All the direct and indirect taxes throughout the Austrian Empire have been increased, with the exception of the tobacco monopoly and the Customs duties, and a new loan is announced to be raised in Lombardy. Seventy-five millions of florins is the sum required.

A despatch from Trieste on Tuesday, announced that the French squadron was before Venice, since which the Austrian Lloyd's have ceased the running of all their steamers.

A Norwegian brig, making for Venice, has been overhauled by a French frigate, and its captain received the intimation that all Austrian ports, with the exception of Trieste (as a German federal town), were placed by France in a state of blockade. The *Vienna Gazette* adds that the commandant of Venice had as yet received no notice of the blockade; but that the French fleet before Venice had already taken six schooners, and six other vessels. Reports from Dalmatia also speak of fifteen French men-of-war having been seen near the port of the Cattaro. If the French intend to blockade all the Austrian ports except Trieste, they certainly will want a great number of ships for this purpose.

The Austrian Governor of Venice has published a notification that from the evening until the morning gun no vessel of any kind shall be allowed to enter or leave that port, and that persons violating the regulation shall be arrested and punished according to military law.

General Melizer de Kellemes has published a proclamation, declaring Lombardy in a state of siege, and General Count Wimpfen has adopted a similar measure for the territory situated between Pavia and the frontier of Dalmatia.

It has been resolved here to station an army of 60,000 men in Gallicia. Austria has already placed all her contingents to the garrisons of the federal fortresses on a full war footing.

SARDINIA.

IMPORTANT MOVEMENTS OF THE AUSTRIANS: CONTRADICTORY STATEMENTS: INACTION OF LOUIS NAPOLEON.

According to the latest reliable accounts, the position held by the allied armies extends from the line of the Dora, covering Turin, by Casale and Alessandria, to Genoa. The French army distributed along the line is counted at 160,000 men. Marshal Baraguay d'Hilliers is posted between Novi and Arquata, watching the road which leads from Tortona and the East, with Canrobert at Alessandria, and MacMahon and Neil on his left. The head quarters of the Sardinian army are at San Salvatore, just behind Valenza, where Victor Emmanuel resides with his staff, and where also the reserve is posted, under Castelborgo. We further learn that Cialdini and Durando command at

Casale, Fanti at Alessandria, and Cucchiari at Novi. The six divisions of the Sardinian army amount to 75,000 men. Alessandria is almost entirely in the hands of the French. The only Piedmontese here belong to General Fanti's division; the others are at Tortona and the neighbourhood.

The French Emperor is still at Alessandria, "concerting strategic measures with his Generals." The operations of his Imperial Majesty have not hitherto been very important: his Majesty went out to have a look at the course of the Po; his Majesty went to Valenza to see the vanguard; his Majesty has paid a visit to the King of Sardinia; and so on. The King and the Emperor visit each other *incognito* very often.

Prince Napoleon does not lead the van—that is certain; and what he is to lead seems a matter of considerable doubt; he is still at Genoa, waiting the organisation of his *corps d'armée*, some portion of which is expected from Algeria, and which is supposed will be completed in eight days or thereabouts, say the correspondents; but how and where this extra corps is to be employed, no one seems to have the slightest idea. The Prince has, however, issued the first order of the day to his "fifth corps" of the army of Italy, calling upon his followers in the usual style to remember what they did at Alma, Inkermann, and so forth. The proclamation produced a good effect here. The Italians think that it was a little too strong to speak of the French as liberators.

The most direct contradictions are given in the despatches from Austrian and Sardinian sources, and there is reason to believe that the atrocities attributed to the Austrian troops are greatly exaggerated. The reports from each camp are mutually recriminative; and as a set-off against the bulletins from Turin, here is a short extract from the letter of an English correspondent, who writes from Austrian head-quarters:—"When the Austrians arrived at a certain town, which I must not name, the inhabitants reproached them for not coming a fortnight sooner. Expecting them, they said, they had made every excuse to delay providing their quota of the reserve of the army, and had the Austrians arrived they might have escaped sending it at all. By the way, the Piedmontese have carried off nearly all the horses and provisions from this part of the country. At Stroppiana they even carried off the women to work at Casale. The Austrians sent provisions for the starving inhabitants left there." The same writer adds that the strictest discipline is preserved by the Austrian generals, and that pillage is severely punished. He also states that twenty or thirty imitations of Austrian uniforms were captured at Novara. They had been made by certain parties for the purpose of committing robberies and atrocities, and of throwing the odium on the Austrians. The rivers, we learn, had again overflowed the country, and military operations were completely suspended. The Austrians were concentrating, with a view to fortify their line of the Ticino and Po.

To believe the French bulletin, the treatment of the people by the Austrians is getting worse and worse. They are constructing extensive works, and are compelling even the women and children of the country to assist with their labour, although one would think that such assistance as that could scarcely repay the odium such tyranny must surely draw down upon them. Several mayors of villages have been arrested for refusing to comply with requisitions for contributions. Rain was still falling, and the Po rising.

A telegram, dated Pavia, Thursday, says that great movements of troops had taken place, that the Austrian head-quarters had been removed from Mortara to Garlasco which is situated in the direction of Pavia, and that a collision was expected. The transfer of the Austrian head-quarters from Mortara to Garlasco shows that the attack of the Franco-Sardinians is expected, not from the side of the Sesia, but from that of the Po, starting perhaps from Voghera, which the Austrians evacuated but a few days ago. Voghera and the Sardinian towns south of the Po, and eastward as far as Stradello, which is situated in close vicinity both to the Po and to the Parmese frontier, are connected with Alessandria as well as with Novi, the two main points of the assembling of the French auxiliary army which went by way of Genoa by rail. The track of this railway is dotted with old battle-fields between the French and Austrians. The Po does not offer at this part of its course any of those difficulties to a crossing which are to be met with lower down. Yet it certainly offers a better line of defence for the Austrians than does the Sesia.

It is the most exposed point, not of the Austrian, but of the French position, to which the forces of both parties now seem to be rushing, and this would indicate that the Austrian commander-in-chief has so far been successful in his seemingly chaotic

maneuvers, compelling the enemy to attack him on the least advantageous point.

There is another telegram by way of Berne, which says that General Gyulai has sent word to his Government that his demands of contributions from the Sardinians for the support of his troops are unattended with further result, that provisions are beginning to fail in Piedmont, and that he will not be able to hold his present position more than fifteen days longer.

TUSCANY.

LAST week H.M.S. Conqueror, 101, arrived in the port of Leghorn without saluting the national flag. Complaints were made, when the captain's answer was, that he acted according to his instructions. A telegram was sent to ask explanation, when the answer of Lord Malmesbury was "that the new Florentine Government did not appear to him strong and established enough to be recognised by England."

In Tuscany in general the utmost confidence in the future exists. There has been no approach to a reactionary movement, save at Via Raggio, where the Austrian flag was hoisted for a few hours, but was soon supplanted by the national tricolour.

Florence itself is almost without troops, but the *avant-garde* of a Piedmontese force, consisting of 300 men, has arrived at Leghorn; and would be followed by 1,100 additional troops as soon as transports could be found for the purpose.

At Turin it was stated that the Austrians intend to send a *corps d'armée* into Tuscany for the purpose of restoring the Grand Duke. These troops will penetrate into the duchy from Modena, the Emperor Francis Joseph having promised to respect the neutrality of the Papal States. To carry this out 60,000 men would have to be abstracted from the army. But could Austria send even 30,000 into Tuscany, and weaken to that extent her forces. It is stated on good authority that the French Emperor intends to lay the foundation of a large national Italian army, expected in time to swell to the proportion of not less than 200,000 men. The Tuscan army, under General Ugo, is the nucleus already formed.

PRUSSIA.

THE LOAN.—SPEECH OF THE REGENT.

GREAT unanimity was shown by both Houses of the Legislature in voting the loan of 6,000,000*l.* demanded by Government for placing the country in a state of defence. In the speeches made every allusion to the particular circumstances, under which the Prussians would think fit to put an end to their neutrality, was carefully and purposely avoided by the speakers. This policy was adopted by them to damp the ardour of the two belligerent Powers, as far as can be done, by leaving them uncertain by what transgression each might forfeit the good-will of Prussia. The only exception to this was made by Von Vincke, who said that he did not consider the occupation of Lombardy by Austria necessary for the safety of Germany; but that, in accordance with the views of the late Minister, Van Radowitz, he was of opinion that Germany, for the sake of her own safety, ought not to permit Austria to be deprived of the fortified line of the Mincio, and consequently ought to protect her in the possession of the province of Venice.

On Saturday the session of the Diet was closed by the Prince Regent in person, who said in his speech, "The war, which my Government in vain used its most strenuous endeavours to prevent, has broken out in Italy. The serious position of affairs demanded the placing of the army on a war footing, which measure it was also found necessary to extend to the marine service. The attitude and spirit of the army is such as to inspire us with full confidence. Whatever the future may produce, it will not, when our country calls, fall short of the deeds and fame in arms of our fathers. Prussia is determined to maintain the basis of European public right and the balance of power in Europe. It is Prussia's right and duty to stand up for the security, the protection, and the national interests of Germany; and she will not resign the assertion of these her prerogatives. Prussia expects that all the German confederate powers will stand firmly by her side in the fulfilment of that mission, and trusts that her readiness to defend the common Fatherland will merit their confidence."

Herr Krupp, the inventor of the rifle cannons upon which Napoleon plumes himself so much, has refused to accept new orders from that potentate. His foundries at Essen, in the Prussian province of the Rhine, are now exclusively for the use of Prussia and Austria.

THE GERMAN STATES.

THE English Government has addressed circulars to its representatives at the small German courts, and at Frankfurt, in which it disavours all aggressive acts against France. This step is regarded as another proof that England will observe neutrality as long as possible; but it shows, on the other

hand, that this neutrality will not be purely passive, and that England is determined to maintain her position as a great power.

The official *Wurtembergischer Staatsanzeiger* announces that the mobilisation of the 8th Federal *corps d'armée* is completed. The Commander-in-Chief of it is Prince Frederick. The *corps d'armée* of Wurtemberg has been placed under the command of the Minister of War, General Miller.

RUSSIA.

THE Russian Government has given orders for the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 5th, and 6th *corps d'armée* to be placed immediately on a war footing, with the whole of the artillery and cavalry belonging to each. The reserves also are to be called in.

The Emperor has commenced the usual spring reviews. This year these reviews will probably be extended to other portions of the empire, and should his Majesty visit Warsaw, or be at any time in the neighbourhood of the Prussian frontier, he will profit by the occasion to have an interview with the Prince Regent.

Prince Gortchakoff has declared to the Austrian minister that Russia will observe neutrality only as long as the German Confederation holds aloof from the war.

Among the rumours of the day it is said that in St. Petersburg "literary and educated men, glowing with a caricature ideal of the principle of nationality, actually dream of incorporating with the empire whatever tribes of Slavonic origin remain under the sceptre of other European states."

PAPAL STATES.

A POPULAR movement has broken out at Cesena, in the Papal States. Rome itself is still tranquil. The Duc de Gramont has left for Genoa, having been summoned by the Emperor Napoleon.

Austria has recognised the neutrality of the States of the Church, but affairs at Ancona are in an unsettled and precarious state. The Tuscan consul hauled down his flag on the 11th, and on the following day a protest was given in by the French and Sardinian consuls on the subject of the fortifications. They threatened, in the event of these being still carried on, to demand their passports.

NAPLES.

THE King's illness appears to be stationary. The official journal in the early part of the week announced that the king had slept, from which we may understand that he had not done so before. A guard has been placed at the door of the rooms which lead into the chamber of his Majesty, to prevent the entrance of every one, with the sole exception of the Hereditary Prince. The Queen never leaves the chamber of the King.

The police are required to watch with the greatest vigilance over all travellers, and especially over those who wear a hat à l'italiano, a beard, or any peculiar costume.

The Count of Syracuse and General Filangieri are both in retirement—the former, in consequence of an attack of dropsy, in Torre del Greco; the latter in Pozzo Piano, near Sorrento.

A note is said to have been sent by Piedmont, in reply to the circular by which the Neapolitan Government proclaims its neutrality. The cabinet of Turin seeks to establish that Naples can no longer enjoy the benefit of neutrality, as that power has given its implicit adhesion to the policy of Austria.

SPAIN.

THE Chamber of Deputies have rejected a motion for doing away with the penalty of death for political offences. Some of the members of the Moderado party had resolved to send a deputation to Narvaez, to request him to return to Spain.

The official *Correspondencia Autographica* says the Portuguese Government has proposed to Spain a treaty of alliance offensive and defensive; but that the Spanish Government has refused to fall in with this proposal, alleging that the treaty between Portugal and England might compromise that liberty of action which Spain intends to preserve.

Some of the Madrid papers mention that the English are repairing and strengthening the fortifications at Gibraltar, and arming batteries; also that troops, heavy guns, and large stores are being collected there. The *Espana*, in giving this news, exclaims, "Gibraltar! There is no veritable Spaniard, who loves the glory and dignity of his country, who does not thrill with emotion at the idea of seeing this rock in the hands of foreigners!" and the *Discusion* gravely recommends the Government "not to abandon the idea of exchanging Ceuta for it!"

SWEDEN.

It has been observed with great satisfaction, in the north of Europe, that military works have been commenced by England on the island of Heligoland.

Sweden has announced its intention of remaining

neutral in the imminent conflict. The Swedish Cabinet, at the same time, declares its adhesion to the declarations on the subject of maritime right in time of war, made by the Paris Conference in 1856.

TURKEY.

A VIENNA letter asserts that the Porte has succeeded in obtaining intelligence of a secret treaty between the Princes of Moldo-Wallachia, Servia, and Montenegro. A general insurrection is to be kindled in the provinces of European Turkey, which, if it succeeds, will be united to the respective dominions of the illustrious originators of the scheme. No traces of Russian agency have been discovered, although there can be little doubt that the Czar is at the bottom of all the mischief.

The French papers say, that a secret convention has recently been concluded between Austria and Turkey, in pursuance of which the Porte undertakes to maintain tranquillity in the valley of the Danube, and Austria engages to keep imposing forces upon the Montenegrin, Servian, and Moldo-Wallachian frontiers, and further to obtain for the Porte the friendship and support of Greece.

CANADA.

FROM Toronto we learn that Government was defeated, on the 30th April, in the Upper House, the supplementary estimates being thrown out. This result was in consequence of the difference which exists between the Upper and Lower Houses on the question of removing the seat of Government to Quebec.

Later news is that the Canadian Parliament was prorogued on the 4th inst., the supply bills having been finally passed.

AMERICA.

By the Arabia we have New York news to the 4th instant.

The official statement of the appropriations made during the last session of Congress shows the whole amount to be 41,367,699 *dols.* Secretary Cass had been unwell, but was improving, and it was hoped that in a day or two he would be able to resume his duties in the State Department.

The case of the *Slaver Wanderer*, which was to have been tried at Savannah, had been postponed till the next term, on account of the non-arrest of her captain—Corrie.

The Navy Department had received despatches from Captain Lavalette, dated Gulf of Spezia, the 8th of April, in which he says that Contorno Ottavio, a musician on board the *Wabash*, who was seized by the Sardinian authorities on the ground that he was a native of that country, and was absent from the recruiting of 1839, has been released, as, on examination, it did not appear that he owed, as was claimed, military service to that Government.

The *St. Paul Daily Times* states that it is proposed to despatch an expedition from that city for the exploration of that immense and fertile district of country lying north-west of Minnesota, and to open an overland route from Minnesota to British Columbia.

At Zanesville, Ohio, on the 2nd, an unsuccessful attempt was made to rescue a fugitive slave from the custody of the United States' Marshal. Clubs and pistols were used, and several persons were badly injured.

The City of Washington arrived on Wednesday with additional news. From Washington we learn that Senor Maite had an interview with the Secretary of State with reference to Mexican affairs. He entertains no doubt of the triumphant success of the Liberal party. It is intimated in the American papers, that Mr. Cobden during his late stay at the White-house availed himself of the opportunity to sound the President on the subject of a moral interposition of the United States in the present tangled and menacing affairs of Europe. It is certain, say these journals, that English statesmen are greatly alarmed, and the wisest are unable to see to what terrible issues the present complications are to lead.

Utah affairs still occupy the attention of Government, but the Mormon imbroglio bids fair to be speedily and permanently settled. Judge Crabbell-bough has not, as reported, been removed, although the probability is that he will be so.

From Cincinnati, we hear that the steamer *Jacob Taylor*, in attempting to near the wharf, struck a pile of pig iron which had been covered by the late rise in the river, and sank in ten feet of water; she afterwards took fire, and will probably prove a total loss.

WEST INDIES.

CUBA.

INTELLIGENCE has been received here to the effect that an attempt to land a small filibustering expedition on the shores of Cuba has failed. The small boats in which the filibusters sought to reach the shore were swamped, and all the munitions were

lost. The filibusters themselves were saved, and had been conveyed in a vessel to Hayti.

PORTO RICO.

Letters of the 16th April say, that produce remained without change, and the fears which had been entertained of a short crop seems to be fully confirmed, and several estates have already ceased grinding. Rain was very much needed.

THE Magdalena arrived at Southampton on Thursday with news from Jamaica to the 26th ult.

JAMAICA.

Most of the Westmorland rioters had been tried and convicted before the special Commission Court at Savanna-la-Mar, and sentenced to various degrees of punishment. An attempt was made, unsuccessfully, to demur to the jurisdiction of the Court. During the investigations it was clearly shown that the positions selected for the toll-gates were calculated to lead to oppression and injustice. The first telegraphic wire had been laid along the railway line from Kingston to Spanishtown, and was to be opened to the use of the public on the 27th ult. A fire had occurred at Annotto Bay, in which the Baptist chapel and other buildings were reduced to ashes. Drought still prevailed throughout the island, and latest accounts from the country parishes represent agriculture as suffering severely.

BARBADOES.

In this island there were reports of discontent, about Easter, among the labouring population, in consequence of a few cane pieces being set on fire, but insubordination was soon checked, and order restored.

MARTINIQUE.

Martial law was still in force, and no persons were allowed to be out in the towns after eight o'clock in the evening. The steamer Dahomy had arrived at the island from the Coast of Africa with between 400 and 500 negroes, men, women, and children; eighty-three had died on the voyage to Martinique. It was stated that this was the last time any vessel was to be employed in such traffic, by orders from the Emperor.

CENTRAL AMERICA.

FROM Nicaragua we have a report that M. Belly had been successful with the Government. On the 29th of March the corner stone of the Inter-oceanic Canal was laid at San Carlos, in the presence of Presidents Martinez and Mora. Her Majesty's steamer Basilisk was at San Juan del Sur.

A letter, dated San Juan del Norte, April 13, reports the loss of the Costa Rica mail, by the upsetting of the boat in which it was coming down the Serepegui. A Mrs. Joy, and a German named Aleman, were drowned. The latter lost his life in attempting to save the lady, an Englishwoman.

At Panama, on Palm Sunday, a riot occurred between the residents of the city and the blacks living without the walls, in which two or three were wounded. The United States Consul signalled the man-of-war in the harbour, and Commodore Long sent several small armed boats, with 300 men, to protect the American residents, but their services were not required.

MEXICO.

THE dates from the capital are to April 18. General Miramon made his escape from the constitutionalists, and arrived at the city of Mexico on the 11th, with two aides-de-camp, just in time to congratulate Marquez on his victory over Degollado. His army came in during the next day or two, most of the troops in good condition. General Degollado arrived before the city of Mexico on the 22nd of March, and might then have easily entered the city, but suffered himself to be deceived. On the 10th, preparations were made for an attack upon Degollado's headquarters by a force of 5,000 men under Marquez. The result was, of course, a complete route of Degollado's following. After the action, the cavalry of Marquez murdered all the wounded, with whom the field was covered, and none of whom were spared. Such deeds of blood and murder, however, were not approved by Miramon's Government. Mr. Black, the American consul, applied to Mr. Otway, the English minister, to take the American citizens and property under his protection, in the absence of any representative of the American Government in the capital, and his request was refused.

SOUTH AMERICAN STATES.

A REVOLUTION broke out at Guayaquil on the night of the 4th ult. While President Robles was on a visit to the house of General Urbina, Colonel Destre and others made a call on Robles. General Franco got wind of Destre's intended treachery, entered the room and shot Destre through the head, who fell dead. At this, a portion of the Government troops in the quarters revolted under General Maldonado, and a fire was kept up all night. When the steamer left on the morning of the 5th, at half-past five o'clock, the result was not known. Political affairs in Chili had not changed much since previous dates. General Vidaurri, with 3,500 men, had been sent to

take command of the North. The general feeling was that the Revolutionists would be easily overcome with the troops the Government has now in Coquimbo and on the way.

In Bolivia Linares seemed to have stifled all the revolutionary movements against his Government. He had abolished the export duty on metals. The mines of Potosi were yielding plentifully.

The Peruvian Congress was still discussing the question of a war with Ecuador, but the feeling for and against war was much divided.

In Arequipa, Echenique had attempted to get possession of the quarters, but did not succeed. Her Majesty's ship Ganges was at Valparaiso.

An account of the great earthquake at Quito, published in the *Seis de Marzo*, of Guayaquil, gives the loss of life at the number of ten persons, instead of 5,000, as the American journals stated.

The Magdalena has brought additional news from the Pacific. Political affairs in Chili remained in about the same state as when the last mail left. All the south was in the hands of the Government, and the north held by the revolutionists. Don Silva Chavez, Commander-in-Chief of the Government Forces in Coquimbo, had been sent to Santiago to be tried by court-martial on account of the affair of the 14th of March. General Vidaurri, with 3,500 men, had been sent to take the command in the north.

In Peru everything was quiet in political affairs, the monetary question forming the most prominent topic of conversation among all classes. Business was very dull. Exchange, 38½d., nominal. Another attempt at revolution at Arequipa had signally failed. Two very smart shocks of earthquake occurred at Lima on the 10th; some buildings were destroyed, but no lives lost.

The Republic of Bolivia is reported to be proceeding more favourably, and the country is showing some indication of prosperity.

EGYPT.

A STRANGE rumour is contained in a recent letter from Alexandria. It is to the effect that the French Consul-General there despatched to France, by the French steamer on the 3rd instant, Said Pasha's written consent to declare his independence of the Porte, provided he is backed and assisted by the French Government. This appears to be the more likely, from the secrecy with which a confidential employé attached to the consulate was sent off by that vessel. He was supposed to have the document in question in his special charge.

AUSTRALIA.

THE Australian mail brings advices from Melbourne to the 16th March, and from Sydney to the 10th March.

In New South Wales ministerial changes were in contemplation. In both the Upper and Lower Houses members had been guilty of great disorder, and much acrimony had been displayed. In the Upper House Mr. Deas Thomson moved a resolution affirming the necessity for connecting the Australian colonies with the proposed telegraphic line between Great Britain and India. The discussion was adjourned that some dispatches recently received might be referred to.

It has been determined to erect a new School of Arts.

The appeals of the Rev. W. B. Clarke for a new expedition in search of Dr. Leichhardt had met with unfavourable responses both from the colonial and Imperial authorities, so that there was no hope of such an expedition being started, unless it can be got up by public subscription.

A "Land League" was being organised. The principles are that "free selection, free pasturage, deferred payments, and taxation on uncultivated and unimproved lands, and a termination of the present squatting system ought to be embodied in any land bill."

A dispute had arisen in the Victorian Parliament between the Council and the Assembly in consequence of the former having made an alteration in a money bill, which the latter, in imitation of our House of Commons, resisted as an infringement of their privileges. After a warm discussion in both Houses, the Council gave way, and the Parliament was shortly afterwards prorogued.

A general election was soon to take place under the new Electoral Act.

The Melbourne accounts of the gold fields are not so satisfactory as they have been, there being an evident diminution in the yield of gold.

CHINA.

THE Overland Mail has brought intelligence from Hong Kong to the 31st March. Trade at Canton has suffered from the exactions of the Mandarin and the inroads of the rebels. A body of rebels are reported as approaching Canton from the west, and great fears are entertained lest they should occupy the Tayshan districts, which at this season would entail the destruction of the new crop. The braves

have been embodied to proceed against the rebels, but little faith is placed in their ability to check these marauding bands.

Previous to Sir Michael Seymour's departure for England his Excellency received a deputation of British merchants, who presented him with a farewell address, and requested his acceptance of a service of plate, value 2,000 guineas, commemorative of the benefits he had conferred on foreign interests and the lustre he had shed on British arms in China.

Baron Gros was about to proceed to France via the Cape of Good Hope. M. de Bourboulon remains as Minister Plenipotentiary under the new treaty, and will reside at Shanghai.

A large pirate force has been destroyed near Kulan by Her Majesty's steamer Niger, Captain Colville, and the gunboats Janus and Clown.

COCHIN CHINA.

THE French have taken Saigon, the citadel of which appears to have been a place of considerable strength. A garrison was left there, and Admiral de Genouilly was about to leave for Touran. The health of the forces was said to be satisfactory.

Original Correspondence.

FRANCE.

Paris, Thursday, 6th pm.

THE PRESS AND THE WAR.

Now that the war has begun, we are not likely to learn anything about it, except just what the Government may find agreeable and convenient to publish. For all news, therefore, we shall be tributary to the enterprise of the correspondents of English papers, with one exception. The Government organs have announced with great ostentation that one of the reporters connected with the *Morning Chronicle* has been permitted by the Minister of State to accompany the army, but the peculiar relations between that journal and the French Government which are known to exist, are not likely to admit of satisfaction being given to the curiosity of the public; nor indeed of much credence being attached to what that gentleman's letters refer to. For all independent observations he will be allowed to make, he might just as well have remained at home, with more comfort to himself, and less cost to his employers. It is reported that M. Delille, who obtained such unenviable notoriety among his fellow citizens of the United States by his conduct during the Emperor's tour in Bretagne, last year, will quit his present position as attaché to the cabinet of M. Mocquard (of course your readers know what that is), and resume his office as correspondent to the organ of the French Embassy in London—the *Morning Post*; so that the Government here have taken their measures to be able to tell their own story of the war, limited and insignificant as will be their auditory. A gentleman connected with the *Moniteur* has likewise left, so that we may anticipate brilliant accounts of French victories, on paper at least. In every engagement the Austrian army will be destroyed. The cruelties of German soldiery will be gibbeted in burning language, and the feminine gentleness of the French lauded in phrases for which a parallel must be sought in the servile dedications of the last century.

FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES.

"Fine words butter no parsnips, and the most fulsome eulogies of a slavish press cannot hide or gloss over the leprosy of distrust which is creeping over the credit of the country. The dishonest system of finance which has lasted now for ten years, the jugglery of public accounts, the extravagant expenditure that has been incurred independently of the war, and the constant accumulations of debt, must come to an end—and when it does come, it will be terrific, sweeping over France like the storm-god, and reducing to ruin her institutions, arts and industry."

"Rudis indigestaque moles."

There is not a public man with the slightest pretensions to honesty who is not filled with apprehensions for the results of the reckless way in which the finances of this great country are managed. As a proof, I may refer to two remarkable speeches which were made the other day in the Chamber of the Legislative body. When that very obedient assembly ventures to criticise the acts of the Government, they must be very bad indeed. To clearly understand the remarks, I ought to state that, although the budget is voted with ample provision for contingencies, it is, nevertheless, the invariable custom to ask for supplementary and extraordinary credit, in order to satisfy claims for works, &c., not sanctioned by the Legislature.

On the occasion of a vote being asked to open additional credits for the present year, M. Paul Dupont said that every year the Chamber was

called upon to give a vote which surprised and afflicted it—to sanction the extra budgetary expenditure, whose enormous progress nothing seemed to be able to stay, in spite of the complaints made every year, which Government admitted to be just. Under the present system the items of expenditure are decided by the respective Ministers, and the Chamber is compelled to approve or reject them *in toto*, while, as the supplementary credits are asked for year after year, the balance of the public accounts for any one twelvemonth is not effected until several years afterwards. The speaker protested against what he termed the absorption of surplus by anticipation, which he said would prevent the Government from maintaining and increasing their popularity. But what was the strangest and most significant part of his speech, was that in which he insisted upon the urgent necessity of completing the sinking fund, repealing the 10 per cent. addition to the taxes imposed for the purposes of the Russian war, and of increasing the salaries of Government officials; and this at a moment when France has plunged into a costly war, has borrowed 20,000,000 sterling, and contemplates the imposition of new taxes.

Another member said, that when Government asked for additional expenditure to be incurred they ought to state how they proposed to meet it, and not content themselves "with the stereotyped phrase that it would be provided for out of the ordinary resources of the budget." It is not improbable that we may have a new illustration of the old saying, "When the cat's away the mice will play."

INDIA, AND INDIAN PROGRESS.

INDIAN ARMY ORGANISATION.

THE report on Indian army organisation, incomplete and undecided as it is, is one of the most extraordinary documents ever produced. The questions proposed for consideration were of the greatest national importance, and they have been treated as if they were of importance to the officers and military friends of the three presidencies, and in subservience to the invested rights, privileges, and perquisites of the officers of the English home army. The English soldiers themselves have not been considered. These vices are too common; for an officer is apt to look upon everything as it affects the interests he has possessed himself of by purchase or by nomination, without any reference to the interests of those whom he is appointed to serve. The Indian civil service is not without the same defects.

What experience has pointed out, and the public expect is, that provision shall be made for the gradual suppression of the native regular army, as the present sepoys in the Madras and Bombay regiments die off, to the restriction of irregular troops, to the abolition of native artillery, to the establishment of hill stations for European troops, militia, and settlers, and to the maintenance of India by a European military force being a constituent part of the general army.

What the public is likely to get is very little. The artillery is to be held by Europeans, except in some garrisons of unhealthy climate; whereas there is hardly one of these places which is really necessary for military purposes; and they ought to be as soon as possible dismantled, for wherever kept up they must be sources of danger, as in the hands of black artillery they give rallying points for future insurrections. No arsenals should be kept in any such places; and we are quite sure if the hill stations were properly organised there is no garrison in India which could not be supplied by quarterly drafts of artillery from the hill stations; but then railways should be laid down, by which reliefs can be brought down in a day, instead of reliefs being three months on the road. The 93rd Regiment, on the reduction of Oude, had the good luck to be rewarded with cantonment in a hill station, but at the last advices it had not yet reached its destination. Lord Clyde is anxious, for his health's sake, to reach Simla, and he has been a long time on the miserable roads.

There is another useful recommendation in the report, and that is, that as a large native police is now being enrolled, a military organisation should be avoided as far as possible. Those best acquainted with India, consider that the police should

have a large body of English officers and sergeants; and, if properly managed, this would be the means of keeping a large number of both classes in India. Let all soldiers of good conduct be encouraged to pass an examination, as all classes of Government servants do, in the native languages, and let their military service count with their police service. Let there be, too, a fair prospect of promotion in the police, and the Indian police would become a favourite service, and would enlist large numbers of English, so that in time, as the resources of India increase and prices rise, the mounted police will consist solely of Europeans, as it is desirable the police of the great cities should likewise be chiefly composed of the same class.

The reporters provide for a native army, consisting of battalions of mixed races and castes, hoping thereby to limit mutiny, oblivious of the fact that it will matter very little whether natives of one caste or set are kept together in battalions, when by help of the post-office, of which they so well understand the use, and by other means of communication, the whole body of Poorbeahs, and the whole body of Mahomedans in the army will combine their separate detachments, and then the leaders of the Brahmins will combine with the leaders of the Mahomedans for a general plan of action as heretofore. Opposition to the Feringhee is a sufficiently defined cause to bring together discordant elements.

When a good hold is got of the hill regions, the natives can be enlisted as now in local corps, like Highland regiments, as their families remain at home as hostages. At present these corps are kept in the hills for local service, while the English are condemned to the plains; and yet in Sylhet, Assam, Darjeeling, and Kumaon for instance, English regiments could be most carefully cantoned. The hill regiments have been recalled at the close of the war, but only one English regiment has obtained a hill station, and the English troops in the hills consist solely of drafts of invalids.

The question of supplying India with regiments of the line, or English regiments for local service, has been largely debated, but the true elements of the question have not been considered. The grand object appears to be, to provide for the disbanded officers of the Bengal army, and to give them good berths. Under any rational system there would be no difficulty in supplying India with any reasonable number of English recruits, if the plan of short service corps, to which we lately alluded, were carried out. For the sake of a free passage and a suburban allotment, there are plenty of young men who would enter for three years' service without other bounty, and without extra pay. Three years' services would, therefore, cost 6*l.* a year, or 4*d.* a day. If, as in the French service, soldiers understanding trades were allowed to work at their trades, paying the substitutes who did their military duty, whereby the whole regiment get extra pay out of the general resources, without any burthen to the Treasury, then we believe that the garrisons of Calcutta, and of every great city in India, could be well worked, while a body of Englishmen, trained to military service, would be distributed over the country, available as a reserve. We pointed out that many so recruited would remain soldiers for prolonged terms, or permanent service, but the option of short service would be a great inducement.

The basis, however, of Indian military organisation is the extension of the hill stations and colonisation, and the provision of branch railways. This, it should be borne in mind, will create in India, in the course of a few years, a large and effective army of Englishmen, which will not cost the Treasury a farthing; for with the hills held by Englishmen, India cannot revolt, or must be reconquered.

Unfortunately, nothing is said in the report on this subject, nor was it made one of the questions for consideration. We are glad to see that Colonel Burdon energetically protests against the large native army countenanced by his brother commissioners.

THE efforts of Sir Macdonald Stephenson, Dr. Archibald Campbell, and Mr. Hyde Clarke have been successful in securing a railway from Calcutta to Darjeeling, in favour of which the Indian Government has reported; but as the Government is indisposed to grant a separate company for this district, it is proposed to give the line to the

Eastern Bengal Company—whereby, if approved, the parties who have laboured are to get nothing for their time and expense, and those who have done nothing are to reap the fruits of the others' toil.

Colonel S. T. Christie, 80th Foot, has leave to Darjeeling.

Lord Stanley's announcement of a fee-simple tenure for India has been received with great satisfaction out there. The *Friend of India*, which has so long laboured in the cause, congratulates Mr. Macleod Wylie and those who have been firm in maintaining this demand. It pertinently alludes to Lord Stanley's declaration in the House of Commons, that it is most important to open the unoccupied lands to European colonisation. All the Sunderbund grantees, all tea-growers in Assam, all miners renting of Government, all planters in territories like Wynad or Darjeeling, it is observed, may now, if they have inclination or capital, become owners of the soil. The *Friend of India* expresses no less satisfaction with the application of the system to zemindaries. "Bengal is to be sold," and the editor maintains this step will be of the greatest benefit to India. Every Englishman or native who holds direct of the State, may emancipate himself at once from all further risk of agency or dependence on the collector. No native can sweep away his property in an hour by neglecting to pay his rent—no distressed Chancellor of the Exchequer raise his rent on the land which he has cleared. That single measure will, the editor firmly believes, place Lord Stanley a century hence in the front rank of Indian benefactors.

The *Friend of India* points to the necessity of providing that the large zemindaries may be divided for the purpose of redemption, so as to facilitate the gradual progress of the measure.

Simla was, at the last advices, in the state of expectation, Lord Clyde not having yet reached. The telegraph is being extended to the station, which ought to have been done long since. The town is fast being filled with residents, and the hopes of house proprietors are raised. A club and family hotel have been opened. A brewery has been established, under the superintendence of an experienced man from England, with a large supply of hops and good water, and it is expected that Simla beer will rival that of Mussoories, Kusowlee, and the Neilgherries. As we observed lately, the new tariff will favour the manufacture. It is feared that the consumption will be limited by the ill-success of the hill brewers as yet in making a beer that will keep. When the railway system is extended there must be a great beer trade.

In the up part of Assam the authorities have had another brush with the Abors, who gave us so much trouble last year, and beat back a detachment with their poisoned arrows. This time they had a party of fifty sailors to deal with, besides two companies of Assam Light Infantry. Two of their villages, about thirty miles from Debwoh, were taken and burnt. Twenty of our men were wounded with poisoned arrows, and one died. This tribe has proved a great obstruction to our progress, but has been gradually compelled to yield.

Captain Eckford, commanding Mynpoorie Levy, has leave for the hills north of Dehra. This is a strange destination for one attached to Mynpoorie, for it might have been thought he could have found one nearer.

Lieutenant H. Collingwood, 48th Bengal N.I., has leave to the Dehra hills, and so has Lieut. Sloman, 61st Foot.

Ensign H. Brodrick, 60th Rifles, has leave to Nynee Tal, together with Capt. J. L. W. Nunn.

Leave for Rawul Pindee and Murree has been given to Lieut. E. Borrowes, 80th Foot.

The exploring party who went to discover a site for a Sanatorium, in the Vindhyan range, have returned. It consisted of Dr. Copper, Dr. Macpherson, Dr. C. J. Smith, and Capt. Shakespeare. They ascended the Galee Purwarthum, or Hill of Wind, the highest peak of the range, and returned in good health. It is understood they were much pleased with their expedition, and that they have reported favourably of the practicability of forming a Sanatorium for Europeans. It is to be hoped this recommendation will be adopted, as such an establishment is much wanted in that district.

The Madras Government have finally sanctioned the surveys for the branch railway to the foot of the Neilgherries, and have approved of the plan of

a railway incline up the Koonoor valley, leaving the Madras line either at the Soomanoor or at the Coimbatore station, and having its terminus either at Seeromogang or at Metapoliem.

Leave for the Neilgherries has been given to Mr. M. F. Farquhar, Madras Civil Service, and to Captain W. J. Cooke, 8th Madras Native Infantry. Sir Charles Trevelyan has appointed a native officer aide-de-camp—a measure which has caused great satisfaction.

Several revelations have lately taken place of the Government—or rather no Government—of India, which is going on, for want of an adequate number of English magistrates, justices of peace, and police. The *Engineers' Journal* states that a Mahomedan zemindar lately threatened a Government engineer, who was engaged on a new road, that if he made it go through his property he would be attacked by latials, or clubmen. On the engineer applying for protection to the Government magistrate of Beerbherm he was told that the law could do nothing for his protection, and that if he protected himself, and took the law into his own hands he might be indicted for murder in the Supreme Court. A native chuprassee, having been appointed gatekeeper on a level crossing of the East Indian Railway, a few miles from Allahabad station, and under the noses of the governors of the north-west provinces, this respectable individual, with the native propensity for extortion, bethought himself of establishing a toll-bar on his own account. Carters travelling on the Grand Trunk Road of India had to pay for permission to pass the crossing, and were, of course, informed that the toll was levied by order of Government. It may be thought by home readers that the natives would have got redress from our native officers, but they were much more likely to share the spoil and harass the complainant. The discovery was at length made by an English gentleman of Allahabad, who happened to drive out on the Cawnpore road, and found he could not get along, as there was a number of carts detained, pending an altercation between the self-constituted toll collector and the carters. He caught the man in the act, seized the money in his hand which he had just stolen, and reported him to the railway authorities, who sent him before the magistrate. In another case one of these native officials, having been employed in the disarming of Allahabad, is said to have flogged persons who really had no arms, with a view to obtain bribes. The dealers and peaceable classes are harassed, and numbers of shops shut, while their owners are compelled to attend the police station on the plea of possessing arms, while the disaffected and really turbulent escape.

In the extension of clubs at Calcutta, the Armenians are about to provide themselves with a club, and the projectors have already paid the entrance fee of 25*l.* each.

A new weekly paper is advertised at Madras, to be called the *Indian Statesman*, and to be conducted by the former editor of the *Athenaeum*.

LATEST INDIAN INTELLIGENCE.

By the arrival of the Calcutta mail we have received papers from Calcutta to the 8th of April. The political intelligence by this arrival is entirely devoid of interest. The Calcutta papers say that finance had been the leading consideration in India.

The trial of the Nawab of Furrackabad, one of the murderous crew who, during their bad pre-eminence, revelled in the tortures they inflicted on our helpless countrymen and women, has ended in his condemnation to death, but the execution of this sentence has been deferred for reference to the Central Government. Some anxiety is felt as to the confirmation of the sentence.

"Rebellion," says the *Times* correspondent, "is not now the difficulty Government has to face, but reorganisation. Money sufficient to pay the interest on the loans, though not to equalise present expenditure and income, will speedily be obtained. The tariff, if the House of Commons does not upset it, will yield an extra million. A succession duty is nearly ready, to be extended to all personal property, and all real property not protected by the perpetual settlement. A tax on tobacco is also to be imposed, and the two together should produce a second million. The succession duty, unless exorbitant, will not be unpopular. A third impost, in the shape of a marriage licence fee, will, I believe, be imposed. This tax, levied by the Mussulmans, is in accord with the native ideas, and would be inappreciable in the midst of all the expense on feasts, torches, nautches, tinsel, and gilt cloths, usually equal to two years' income. The money being provided for the

loans by which we are to tide over the years of difficulty, there will remain the reduction of expenditure to income. The orders for this end must come from England, for the mass of private interests and inveterate prejudices render large reductions here impossible."

From Madras we learn that Sir Charles Trevelyan has partially suspended some appointments made by his predecessor, Lord Harris, on the ground of the unfitness of those selected to fill them; it is his intention to adhere to the competitive examination system for entrance into the public service; and he has taken steps to reduce the voluminous correspondence with which the Government is deluged.

The Bombay mail of April 26th has arrived, and brings particulars of the execution of Tantia Topce, whose capture only preceded his trial and death by a few days. On the 15th ult., he was brought to court-martial. The charges upon which he was arraigned were confined to rebellion and opposing the British Government by force of arms. The court did not long deliberate; and it soon became known that he was to perish on the scaffold. On the evening of the 18 ult. he was conveyed to the place of execution, guarded by a company of the 3rd Bengal Infantry (Europeans). After a delay of about twenty minutes, the charges, finding, and sentence were read in English; a native translation having been previously read to the prisoner. When requested to mount the platform, he did so without assistance, evincing neither hesitation nor apprehension. He died without a struggle, and had it not been for his cruelties and his crimes, his stoicism might have been admired. Tantia is described as a stout, well-made man of about fifty, five feet six in height, with a large head, eyes sunken beneath projecting cheek bones, and high arched brows.

Oude continues tranquil. The total number of arms up to April 2 exceeds a million. There have already been surrendered 473 cannons, 128,844 other fire-arms, 402,839 swords, and 567,724 arms of other kinds.

The accounts from Nepal describe the condition of the rebels under Bala Rao and the Nana as being most deplorable. Their followers, as well as those of the Begum (who is not with them) are starving, and all supplies are cut off from them.

Bengal continues to enjoy the most perfect tranquillity. The celebrated mandarin, Yeh, died in Calcutta, on the evening of the 9th instant. He had been ailing, and became subject to a sudden collapse, from which he rallied for a time, but subsequently succumbed.

TANTIA TOPEE'S CAREER.

We take the following from the letter of the *Daily News* correspondent: Tantia Topce was a Brahmin of the Dekkan, having been born in the zillab of Ahmednuggur. He attached himself at an early age to the court of the late Peishwa, Bajee Rao, and was from his boyhood the constant companion of Dhuardoo Punt, of Bidhoor, commonly called the Nana Sahib. He was well skilled in military tactics, and had made the old predatory system of Mahratta warfare his study. From the hour of his capture to that of his death he betrayed no symptoms of either trepidation or despondency. Revolting as were his crimes, he attempted neither palliation nor extenuation. He gave no mercy, and he sued for none; he yielded up his life without a murmur or a struggle, betraying as little symptoms of nature or humanity on the scaffold at Seepree, as he had done by the well at Cawnpore. He denied having taken any part in the massacre; but it is well known that he commanded on the occasion one of the divisions of the Nana Sahib's army. His exploits were more numerous and dashing than those of any of the other rebel leaders. He led the Gwalior Contingent in person when Wyndham's camp was burnt in November, 1857. Sustaining, however, a severe repulse at the hands of Sir Colin Campbell, and losing sixteen of his guns, he crossed the Jumna, and fell back upon Calpee. But here he did not remain long. Intelligence of the victorious entry of Sir Hugh Rose into Central India, the relief of Saugor, the fall of Garrakota, and the perilous position of the Ranees of Jhansie, induced him to evacuate Calpee, and march southward. On the 1st April, 1858, he first crossed swords with Sir H. Rose on the banks of the Betwa, and his troops were driven in disorder, by only a handful of the Central India Field Force, from under the very battlements of the beleaguered city. He also commanded at Agra, and sustained a severe repulse at the hands of Brigadier-General Greathed. In the course of twelve months he fought twenty pitched battles, viz.:—The Betwa, Koonch, engagements before Calpee, Gwalior, Kote-ke-Seral, Sanganeer, Budwarra, Kotarra, Inoor Gowlie, Sindwa, Kurrai, Rajpore, Oodeypoor, Pertamburgh, Dhossa, Burrache, Zeerapoor, Koorhana, and Seronge. In every one of these engagements he was defeated, with the loss of guns innumerable and hundreds of his followers. During the whole period he had only two successes—one at Gwalior and one

at Esangurgh; and on both occasions they were over native troops, who instead of opposing him, ranged themselves under his banners. Setting aside his skirmishes, he encountered in successive engagements more than a dozen of our best British general officers and brigadiers. His first vanquisher was Greathed, and he was succeeded by Rose, Napier, Michel, Roberts, Smith, Parke, De Sali, Showers, Benson, Somerset, Horner, and Rich, who worsted the Pindarce leader wherever they encountered him. His success lay in the celerity of his marches, his knowledge of the country, and the freebooting manner he adopted to obtain supplies. He carried along with him neither baggage nor commissariat, compelling the countries through which he passed to provide him with everything that his army required.

FACTS AND SCRAPS.

The Queen's State Ball, which was to have taken place on Tuesday, the 7th June, has been postponed until the 8th.

General Sir W. F. Williams, K.C.B., who is about to retire from the command of Woolwich garrison, was present on Friday at a grand entertainment in the Royal Artillery mess-room, which was concluded by a ball.

The Duke of Chartres is at Casale in General Cialdini's division. On the evening of the 9th the young prince made a reconnaissance, and sent in his report. The Duc d'Aumale has sent his nephew two English horses.

The Duke de Padoue is startling the world with zeal. He has expressed his displeasure towards the editor of a very small Paris paper, for having said in one of its tiny columns that the Empress was about to put a girdle of crinoline round Paris by carrying it out to the fortifications.

A correspondent of the *Independence Belge* states that extraordinary precautions have been taken in the French camp to prevent indiscreet publicity. All letters from the army are to be deposited unsealed in the military post-office.

Sir Andrew Smith, late Director of the Army Medical Department, not forgetful of the days passed by him when a student in the University of Edinburgh, has just presented to its Natural History Museum his magnificent collection of reptiles. It embraces nearly 2,000 specimens.

The Gaité has made a hit with a new piece entitled "*Ménages Parisiens*," one of those dramas composed of a vicious husband, a suffering wife, and a dashing courtesan. In this new example of the school, the two ladies are brought into each other's presence in every one of the seven acts of which the play consists.

The secretary of the Neapolitan exile fund, in Liverpool, laid before the committee on Saturday, the total amount of subscriptions, 350*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.*

At Stalybridge, on Monday, Thomas Clark, journeyman to Robert Hine, chimney sweeper, was fined 5*l.*, or six weeks' imprisonment, for allowing a boy to ascend a chimney to sweep it.

The General Conference of the States of the German Zollverein is appointed to take place on the 1st of June. The chief object of the meeting is to fix the tariff for three years, from 1860 to 1863 inclusive. It is expected that the conference will be held at Harzburg.

The celebrated Count Caesar Balbo has left five sons, all of whom are enrolled beneath the Piedmontese banners. One of them, says the *Ami de la Religion*, the Count Casinier Balbo, was unhappily severely wounded in the first skirmish with the Austrians.

Sir Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy died on the 14th of April, at the age of 76. He was created a baronet by the British Government a few years back. His donations to public objects during his successful mercantile career amounted to about 300,000*l.*, and he has bequeathed a large fortune to his family.

According to private advices from Egypt, an attempt has been made to assassinate the Pacha, and his Highness had been living on board his yacht, Faid Gehaad, in consequence.

The seamen and shipwrights of Sunderland are demanding an advance of wages. They will obtain their demands, the call for both classes for the Royal Navy and dockyards having taken away all surplus labour.

The Count de Cavour is collecting evidence of the depredations of the Austrians in Piedmont, and purposes, it is said, to make them the object of a circular which shall protest in the face of Europe against acts which transgress the ordinary limits of the rights of war.

A Turin correspondent writes:—"This afternoon I was at the bankers N—. While waiting there a private soldier of the line, in his great coat and side arms, appeared at the counter and presented a letter containing a credit in favour of Count —, on Milan, for 50,000 francs. The banker asked where the count was; 'I am he,' was the answer."

Princess Clotilde has bought the celebrated fan which belonged to the late Queen of Oude. The handle, of ivory and gold, is ornamented with rubies and seventeen large diamonds of the purest water.

In Munich, as well as in Stuttgart and Dresden, female societies are forming for the purpose of pledging as many of the fair sex as possible to refrain from wearing crinoline, or any other article of French manufacture.

The Pope on receiving the Duke of Grammont, a few days ago, as the bearer of a letter from the Emperor Napoleon, promising him protection, his Holiness, holding up a crucifix, observed, "Behold my only support."

Some of the native gentlemen of Calcutta propose to establish a club on the European model, to be called the Union Club. They are assisted by several European gentlemen, who hope to make the club a point of union between Europeans and natives.

The anniversary meeting of the Royal Geographical Society will be held on the 23rd inst., at their house in Whitehall-place, when the gold medals will be awarded.

The members of the Mechanics' Institute, Melbourne, have determined upon erecting a new hall, at an expenditure of £7,500.

A letter from St. Petersburg states, that the joy caused by the taking of Schamyl's stronghold was damped by the fact that he himself and his principal supporters made good their escape. A squadron of dragoons, which pursued them, would have been entirely destroyed, but for the timely succour of a detachment of cossacks.

The *Augsburg Gazette* calls on the German ladies to give up purchasing any French articles of millinery. "We must not," it says, "let German money pass from our pockets into those of the French, and enable them to make war on us."

Among the passengers by the Arabia from New York, on Saturday, were Lords Cavendish and Cecil, and the Hon. E. Legge and E. Ashley.

Mr. Joseph Sturge, of Birmingham, died on Saturday morning. As the foe of slavery, as the friend of peace, as the promoter of temperance and education, and numerous schemes of benevolence, both local and general, his name stands on honourable record.

Archdeacon Colquhoun Campbell has been nominated by the Crown to the bishopric of Bangor, worth 4,500*l.* a year, rendered vacant by the death of the Right Rev. Dr. Christopher Bethell. In consequence of the elevation of Archdeacon Campbell, the Crown will claim the right to the rectory of Merthyr Tydvil, worth about 800*l.* a year.

The ceremony of opening the new Homoeopathic Hospital, in Great Ormond-street, Bloomsbury, took place on Thursday, in the presence of a numerous assemblage of ladies and gentlemen, amongst whom were the Earl of Wilton and Lord Ebury.

The beautiful church in Margaret-street, the opening of which has been so long expected, is to be consecrated on Saturday, the 28th inst., when the Bishop of London will preach the sermon.

A young girl, named Susan French, was burnt to death at a fire which took place on Tuesday, on the premises of Mr. Nicol, publisher, High-street, Edinburgh.

A return made to the Court of Aldermen of the traffic over London-bridge in 24 hours, ending at 6 p.m. on Thursday, the 17th March last, shows that during that time 4,483 cabs, 4,286 omnibuses, 9,245 waggons and carts, 2,430 other vehicles, and 54 horses led or ridden—making a total of 20,498 passed over the bridge. The passengers in the same period were, in vehicles, 60,836; on foot, 107,074. Total, 167,910.

On the 23rd of April last the Iron Crown of Lombardy was solemnly removed by the Austrians, under the protection of a strong body of horse, from Monza to the fortress of Mantua. The crown is made of gold, but has inside an iron ring, of which the legend relates that it has been forged from the nails of our Saviour's cross.

Open the window, and let in more light!" were the last words of Goethe. The sun shone brilliantly in the room where Humboldt died, and it is reported that the last words addressed to his niece were, "Wie herrlich diese Strahlen! sie scheinen die Erde zum Himmel zu rufen!" (How grand these rays: they seem to beckon Earth to Heaven!)

Cardinal Wiseman has returned to town, from Norfolk, where he has visited the Catholic chapels and congregations in Norwich and Yarmouth, and also proceeded to Norwich Cathedral.

The sum of 3,000*l.* has been voted by the corporation of Melbourne for this year's quota towards the erection of public baths and fountains. Arrangements have been made for erecting twenty-four water taps at the junctions of the principal streets of Melbourne.

It is rumoured that before the meeting in Parliament, Sir E. Lytton will formally resign the seals of the Colonial department, and his successor will be appointed from the secondary ranks of the administration.

The apprehension that blockades will be enforced at various foreign ports during the war (says the *Norfolk Chronicle*) has already begun to operate upon the prospects of the herring fishery, and many curers are inclined to have fewer boats than they contemplated.

Mr. Gavan Duffy, Minister of Public Works, Victoria, has resigned. The *Melbourne Age*, in announcing the fact, says that "Jonah has been thrown overboard, and the mariners who navigate the ministerial vessel are buoyant with hopes of fair weather and a calm sea."

The *Colombo Examiner* notices the success of the pearl fishery at Aripo. The oysters were selling at £6 to £6 10*s.* per 1,000, and money was abundant. Bates, the chief of the European divers, was under water for three hours. The operations of the European divers are expected to produce very beneficial results, both in the discovery of new banks, and in determining the age of the oysters.

The French Minister of State has permitted three writers to accompany the French army in Italy—M. Pierron, of the Ministry of State; M. Dreolle, and a gentleman connected with an English journal.

The Court of General Sessions, says the *New York Tribune*, opens with a bloody calendar. Eleven prisoners are to be tried for murder and four for manslaughter.

The death of the Right Hon. Francis Stuart, eleventh Earl of Moray, in the peerage of Scotland, and Lord Stuart, of Castle Stuart, in that of the United Kingdom, happened at Hayes-park, Middlesex, on the 6th inst., in the sixty-fourth year of his age.

The *Weekly Register* says—the fact cannot be disputed or denied upon any ground whatever, of the conversion of the late Duke of Leeds to the Catholic faith, and we may also state that Miss Fox, a niece of the duke, was received into the Church at Everingham, on Maunday Thursday.

The Nottingham Town Council, after a protracted and warm discussion, have agreed to a site of land being given in the Arboretum for the purpose of placing thereon a statue of the late Feargus O'Connor. This decision has created great dissatisfaction in the town.

Mrs. Susan Cushman Muspratt died at her residence, near Liverpool, on Tuesday last. Mrs. Muspratt will be well remembered by most of our readers as the accomplished Susan Cushman, the sharer of her sister's early popularity in this country, and the representative of Juliet, Pauline Deschappelles, &c., to her sister's Romeo, Claude Melnotte, &c.

The Earl and Countess of Erroll have lost their infant and only daughter. The Duke of Marlborough's infant son died on Thursday. The Earl of Fife's youngest daughter died, after a very short illness, on Sunday.

The Rev. C. V. King, Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, has been appointed to the rectory of St. Mary-le-Bow, Durham; the Rev. C. P. Jones, curate of Peterston, to a minor canonry in St. David's Cathedral; the Rev. G. W. T. Caruthen to the rectory of Ashpington, Devonshire.

Mr. Henry Drummond Woolf, private secretary to Sir Edward Lytton, is named as Government Secretary at Coria, in succession to Sir Thomas Bowen, who is appointed governor of the new colony of Queensland (Moreton Bay), in Australia.

In charging the Calcutta grand jury, Sir M. Wells stated, that during the six weeks he had been presiding as one of the judges of the Supreme Court, he had witnessed more perjury and forgery than during the course of eighteen years' practice at the English bar.

Mr. G. V. Brooke has become the sole lessee of the Theatre Royal, Melbourne. Mr. Hudson, the Irish comedian, has appeared there. Miss Emma Stanley seems to be meeting with considerable success, and Mrs. Butler's "readings" attract large audiences.

Letters from Liege state that the English Government is entering into contracts with different manufacturers for the supply of 200,000 rifles.

The English are very ill-received just now in Italy, and especially at Genoa, says a correspondent of the *Independence Belge*. In order to hinder quarrels, the captain of a large ship, whose name escapes me, has several times kept his crew on board; he has determined even upon quitting the port and going towards Leghorn.

The Early Closing Association got up a meeting on Thursday to shut up the Burlington Arcade an hour sooner than at present. Lord Shaftesbury presided. The shopkeepers are to "confer" on the subject.

Arrangements have been made for the erection of St. Helena into a distinct episcopal see, and the Rev. Piers Calvey Cloughton, M.A., of Brasenose College, Oxford, and rector of Elton, near Oundle, has been nominated the first bishop.

The Marquis de Campana, of Rome, noted for his fine museum, his defalcations, and his late condemnation to imprisonment, was last week set at liberty and exiled. He is about to enter a monastery at Florence, to which city he went on leaving Rome.

At the Mersey Dock Board, Mr. Bold moved a resolution in favour of the application of electricity to the clock on the summit of the Victoria tower, in order to ensure more perfect accuracy in the dropping of the time-ball on the top of the same tower. The resolution was adopted.

The marriage of Mdle. Hubner, daughter of the late Austrian ambassador at the French Court, with M. de Maupassant, a rich landowner, of the department of the Maine and Loire, was solemnised on Wednesday morning in the chapel of the Pope's Nuncio, in the Rue Grenelle St. Germain, Paris.

A new bishopric is spoken of for the North of England, to be created out of the see of Durham.

THE SUSPECTED POISONING AT RICHMOND.—Yesterday Mr. Thomas Smethurst was again brought before the magistrates on the charge of administering poison to Isabella Bankes. A great deal of additional evidence was heard. Professor Taylor and Dr. Todd were of opinion that arsenical poison had been administered. The case was adjourned till Monday.

GREAT FIRE IN THE CITY.—Yesterday morning, between six and seven o'clock, a fire broke out in the premises belonging to Messrs. Hubbeck, in Lime-street. The building was filled with turpentine, paint, saltpetre, sulphur, &c. Some men were stacking away carboys filled with turpentine, when one of the bottles split, and the spirit running out came in contact with a light, and in an instant the turpentine was in a flame, firing in rapid succession various other carboys, which exploded one after another. The loss must be very considerable. Three men have been taken to St. Thomas's Hospital, where their wounds have been dressed. A young man, named Watts, is missing.

RELICS OF MOLIERE.—The discovery of three pieces of unpublished verse by Molière cannot fail to be interesting to all lovers of literature, and such a discovery is supposed to have been made. The pieces in question were found, some time since, amongst a mass of old papers, some of which had reference to Molière, by the Marquis Henri de la Garde, amongst the lumber of an old bookseller's in the town of Avignon, where Armande-Grésinde Bejart de Modene, who became the wife of Molière, was born. The papers referring to Molière consisted, first, of a number of epitaphs, epigrams, and sonnets, on the death of the great comic poet; and secondly, two epitaphs, followed by two madrigals, attributed to Molière by the writer of the papers. With these were some other documents having reference to the family of Des Achards, with which family the Marquis de Fortia d'Urban—author of a "Dissertation on the Marriage of the celebrated Molière," a "Dissertation on the Wife of Molière," and a "Supplement to the various editions of the Works of Molière," &c.—was connected.—*The Critic*.

THE AUSTRIAN COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.—FRANZ Count Gyulai, of Maros-Némethy and Nadaaka, was born on the 1st September, 1798. His family boast of the purest Magyar blood. His father fought in the battles of Dresden, Leipsic, Brienne, and Barsur-Aube, and had the reputation of being a skilful commander. The present Count Gyulai entered the army in 1816, rose in 1846 to the dignity of Field-marshal-Lieutenant, and during the revolutionary troubles of 1848 served with great distinction in the capacity of Commander in Dalmatia. He saved the Austrian navy from the attack of the insurrectionists. Trieste, Pola, and other important points on the coast were at that time fortified according to his plans. From June, 1849, to July, 1850, he held the office of Minister of War, afterwards was sent to take the command of the 5th corps d'armee at Milan, and proceeded by gradual steps to the command of the 2nd Army corps, and to the military superintendence of Lombardy and Venetia.

Postscript.

LEADER OFFICE, Friday Evening.

THE WAR.

THE *Moniteur* of this day (Friday), publishes the following telegram:—ALESSANDRIA, May 19.—The Emperor inspected to-day the positions of the first and third corps d'armee at Tortona and Ponte-Curona. Yesterday the Austrians endeavoured to fortify and to block up the windows of a house on the left bank of the Po, and by entrenching themselves within it to dispute the passage of the river at Valenza. A few discharges, however, of French cannon, from a distance of 2,600 metres, sufficed to dislodge them from their sheltered position, which they have since abandoned. At eleven o'clock this morning the Austrians withdrew from Vercelli, and have blown up the bridge over the Sesia.

The following official bulletin was published yesterday at Turin:—“Yesterday evening several detachments of the Austrians advanced to Capriasca, near San Germano, driving off cattle and firing at the peasants. “Our troops desiring to fight, awaited the enemy at San Germano, but they withdrew to Vercelli, which they this morning evacuated, after blowing up two arches of the bridge over the Sesia. Our troops occupied Vercelli at 4:30 this afternoon.

THE EUROPEAN CRISIS.

THE *Mayence Journal* of this day (Friday) states that, according to reliable information, 25,000 Bavarians are next week to enter the Rhine Palatinate, to protect the frontiers. Baron Kubeck is designated as the future President of the Federal Diet.

AUSTRIA.

A VIENNA letter states that the retirement of Count de Buol is likely to be followed by that of two others of his colleagues; Baron de Bach, Minister of the Interior, and Count de Thunn, Minister of Public Instruction, being, it states, on the eve of resigning or receiving their dismissal. As to M. de Bruck, the Minister of Finance, his services cannot be dispensed with under present circumstances.

AMERICA.

THE *Ariel* arrived at Southampton to-day (Friday) with the American mails, and 382,000 dollars for France. The American Government have been informed by the English Minister that the action of our Minister in Mexico was without authority.

ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.

MR. EMERY'S FAREWELL TO ENGLAND.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

In bidding farewell to his numerous friends and the public, Mr. Emery refers with pride and satisfaction to the results of his professional career in the metropolis, extending over a period of sixteen years, in which so many recorded successes at the Theatres Royal Covent Garden, Drury Lane, Haymarket, Lyceum, Adelphi, Olympic, Strand, &c.; and in drawing attention to this, the last night of his appearance in London, he ventures to express a hope that on the termination of his intended tour through America, California, and Australia (calculated to occupy about five years), he may be permitted to renew associations fraught with so many pleasurable reminiscences, and claim once more the position so long accorded him by the public voice, and the unanimous approval of the metropolitan press.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, MAY 25th, 1859.

The following ladies and gentlemen have in the handsomest manner consented to appear on the occasion:—Mrs. Stirling (by the kind permission of Messrs. Robson and Emden), Miss Palmer, Miss Clara Fraser, Miss Lettler, Mr. Charles Young, Mr. Barrett, Mr. James Rogers, and Miss Marie Wilton (by the kind permission of Miss Swanborough), Mr. Belford, Mr. J. Calcott, Mr. Seymour, Mr. F. Charles (with the kind permission of Messrs. Robson and Emden), Mrs. Wallis, Mrs. Newbury (late of the Theatre Royal Haymarket), Miss Helen Lovell, Miss Wadham (of the Theatre Royal, South Camp, Aldershot), and Miss Emma Neville.

The performances will commence with the Comedy of *MARRIED LIFE*. Mr. Samuel Coddle, Mr. Emery; Mrs. Frederick Younghouse, Miss Wadham.

Comic Song, “Macbeth! Macbeth! Macbeth!!!” by Mr. J. Rogers.

To be followed by the favourite Farce by John Oxenford, Esq., called the *TRAGEDY QUEEN*. Mrs. Braecordle, Mrs. Stirling.

A FAREWELL ADDRESS will be delivered by Mr. Emery.

After which a *VOCAL INTERMEZZIO*. Sustained by Miss Palmer, Miss Clara Fraser, Mr. Seymour, and Miss Lettler. Pianist, Mr. J. G. Calcott.

The whole to conclude with the Farce of *GOOD FOR NOTHING*.

Stalls, 6s.; Dress Circle, 4s.; Upper Boxes, 3s.; Pit, 2s.; Gallery 1s.

Doors open at half-past six; performances to commence at seven.

Sole agent for Private Boxes, Stalls, &c., W. R. Sams, Royal Library, St. James's-street. Tickets, &c., may also be had of Mr. Emery, 100 Regent-street.

Private Boxes, £1 1s. 6d. and 2s. only.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S THEATRE.

LAST WEEKS OF MR. CHARLES KEAN'S

MANAGEMENT.

On Monday, and during the week will be presented Shakespeare's historical play of *HENRY THE FIFTH*, commencing at 7 o'clock. King Henry, Mr. C. Kean; Chorus, Mrs. C. Kean.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA—DRURY LANE.

LESSEE AND DIRECTOR, Mr. E. T. SMITH.

Immense success of the Italian Opera, at Old Playhouse Prices. Magnificent reception of the great artists, Madlles. Titiens, Guarducci, Balfe, Sarolta, and Brambilla; Signori Mongini, L. Graziani, Badiali, Fagotti, Lanzoni, and Giuglini, who are nightly greeted with the greatest possible applause.

On MONDAY, her Majesty's servants will perform Verdi's opera,

LA FAVORITA.

Leonora, Madlle. Guarducci; Ines, Madame Poma; Bal-dassare, Signor Lanzoni; Don Gasparo, Signor Corsi; Alfonso, Signor Fagotti; and Fernando, Signor Giuglini.

ON TUESDAY—IL DON GIOVANNI.

(With the following powerful cast.)

Donna Anna Madlle. Titiens.
Donna Elvira Madlle. Vauceri.
(Her first appearance this season.)

Zerlina Madlle. Victoire Balfe.
(Being her first appearance since her late severe accident.)

Don Giovanni Signor Badiali.
Leporello Signor Marini.

(His first appearance at the Royal Italian Opera.)

Il Commendatore Signor Lanzoni.
Masetto Signor Castelli, and
Don Ottavio Signor Giuglini.

Madlle. Boschetti will dance in the Minuet.

To conclude with, each evening, a *BALLET DIVER-TISSEMENT*, by Madlle. Amina Boschetti, M. Vandris, Madlles. Morlacchi, Gorilla, Mathet, Pasquali, Maraqueta, and the corps de ballet.

Musical Directors and Conductors, M. Benedict and Signor Arditi.

The First Grand Morning Performance will take place on Friday, May 27.

Pit tickets, 3s. 6d.; lower gallery, 2s.; upper gallery, 1s.; upper boxes, 5s.; dress circle, 7s.

In order to prevent disappointment at night, early application should be made for places at the box-office of the theatre.

Private boxes, stalls, box, pit, and gallery tickets to be had on application to Mr. Chatterton, at the box-office daily, from eleven to six. Doors open at half-past seven; commence at eight.—Stage-manager, Mr. R. Roxby.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA—DRURY LANE.

LESSEE AND DIRECTOR, Mr. E. T. SMITH.

GRAND MORNING PERFORMANCE, ON FRIDAY, MAY 27.

The Lessee and Director begs to announce that, in compliance with the wishes of the nobility, gentry, subscribers, and numerous applicants in the vicinity of London, Verdi's grand and highly-attractive opera,

IL TROVATORE.

has been selected for the occasion, which will be performed with the following powerful cast:—Leonora, Madlle. Titiens; Azucena, Madlle. Guarducci; Ines, Madlle. Dell'Anese; Il Conte di Luna, Signor Badiali; Fernando, Signor Lanzoni; Ruiz, Signor Mercuriali; Un Zingaro, Signor Castelli, and Maurizio, Signor Giuglini.

Early application must be made at the box-office to ensure good places.

ST. MARTIN'S HALL.

MISS ANNIE GODDARD has the honour to announce that she will give

A GRAND CONCERT,

in aid of the Funds of the Great Northern Hospital, King's Cross,

ON TUESDAY, MAY 31st, 1859;

on which occasion the following distinguished Artists will appear:—

VOCALISTS.—Madame Clara Novello, Miss Banks, Miss Palmer, Miss Annie Goddard, Mr. Sims Reeves, Mr. Montem Smith, Mr. Thomas, and Mr. Santley.

INSTRUMENTALISTS.—Flute, Master Drew Dean; Piano-forte, Miss Arabella Goddard; and Violin, Herr Wieniawski.

CONDUCTORS.—Mr. E. J. Hopkins and Sig. Randegger.

Doors open at half-past seven, commence at eight.

Sofa Stalls, 10s. 6d.; Reserved Seats (numbered), 5s.; Balconies or Centre Area, 2s. 6d.; Platform, 1s.

Tickets may be obtained of Miss Annie Goddard, 15, Grenville-street, Brunswick-square, W.C.; and of Mr. Headland, St. Martin's Hall.

ST. MARTIN'S HALL.

MISS PALMER'S FIRST CONCERT.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1, 1859.

Vocalists.—Madame Rudersdorf, Miss Banks, Miss M. Bradshaw, Miss Palmer, Mr. Sims Reeves, Mr. Wilbye Cooper, Mr. Thomas.

Instrumentalists.—Mr. Maycock, Mr. Nicholson, Mr. Hauser, Mr. C. Harper. Solo Piano-forte, Miss Arabella Goddard; Solo Violin, Herr Molique.

Conductors.—Mr. Walter Macfarren and Sig. Randegger.

Tickets, 1s.; Balconies, 2s. 6d.; Sofa Stalls, 5s. Doors open at half-past seven; commence at eight o'clock.

Entrance to the Stalls in Wilson-street.

MISS LE DIEU

Has the honour to announce that she will give a *SOIREE MUSICALE* at the BEETHOVEN ROOMS, 76, HARLEY-STREET, on MONDAY, JUNE 6, on which occasion she will be assisted by the following artists:—Miss Louisa Van Noorden, Miss Stella (her first appearance), Mrs. Bentin and Miss Palmer; Mr. Henry Rigaldi and Mr. Thomas; violin, Mr. Dando; piano-forte, Madame de Vaucheran and Miss Le Dieu. Conductors, Mr. Walter Macfarren, Mr. Bentin, and Mr. P. E. Van Noorden.

Tickets 7s. each, to be procured of Miss Le Dieu, 10, Southampton-street, Fitzroy-square; and of the principal music sellers.

ORATIONS BY MR. T. MASON JONES.

WILLIS'S ROOMS.

Monday evening next, May 23rd, at half-past eight, “Edmund Burke, the Philosopher, Statesman, and Orator.”

Reserved Seats (numbered), 5s.; Un-numbered Seats, 2s. 6d.

Mr. T. Mason Jones will also give an Oration at Exeter Hall, on Thursday evening next, May 26th, “Milton, the Patriot, Statesman, Prose Writer, and Poet.”

Tickets to be obtained at Mr. Mitchell's, Royal Library, 33, Old Bond-street.

CRYSTAL PALACE.

Arrangements for Week ending Saturday, May 28:—Monday, open at 9; Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, open at 10. Admission, One Shilling; Children under twelve, Sixpence.

Wednesday, May 28th, open at 10.—SECOND GRAND CONCERT this season by the Artists of the ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.

Admission free by Two Guinea Season Ticket; or by One Guinea Season Ticket and payment of Half-a-Crown; to non-Season Ticket-holders on payment of Seven Shillings and Sixpence; or if tickets are purchased before the day, on the written demand of a Season Ticket-holder, Five Shillings. Children under twelve, half price.

Saturday, open at 10.—VOCAL AND INSTRUMENTAL CONCERT AND FLORAL PROMENADE. Admission by Season Tickets of both classes, or on payment of Half-a-Crown; Children under twelve, One Shilling.

Sunday, open at 1:30, to Shareholders, gratuitously by tickets.

CRYSTAL PALACE.

HANDEL COMMEMORATION FESTIVAL.

FIVE SHILLING TICKETS.

In accordance with their published intention “of affording the opportunity of attending the Festival to those who do not desire Reserved Seats,” the Directors have now the pleasure to announce that Tickets will be issued at Five Shillings each, for each of the three days of the Festival—viz., the 20th, 22nd, and 24th of June. These Tickets will be in the North and South Naves, commencing on either side at the limit of the Orchestra, and extending from thence towards the ends of the Palace. Seats will be provided, with an access entirely separate from that to the Reserved Seats and Stalls.

Applications for these tickets will be received at the Crystal Palace and at 2, Exeter Hall only, on and after Monday, the 23rd inst.; but no applications can be attended to unless accompanied by a remittance of the full amount. Cheques and Post-office orders to be made payable to GEORGE GROVE, Esq.—the latter at the General Post Office, St. Martin's-le-Grand.

As only a limited number of these Tickets will be issued, early application is recommended.

By order,
GEORGE GROVE, Secretary.

N.B.—Additional Stalls have been reserved in the Galleries and in the Area—the latter on an inclined platform on the site of the small Orchestra immediately fronting the Handel Orchestra; these and the Stalls in front of the Galleries are Five Guineas the Set, or Two Guineas the Single Stall; the remaining Stalls One Guinea each, and Two-and-a-half Guineas the Set.

Seats in the unnumbered blocks, at Twenty-five Shillings the Set, or Half-a-Guinea each, may also be had.

Plans of the above may be inspected at the Crystal Palace and 2, Exeter Hall.

Crystal Palace, May 18th, 1859.

ST. JAMES'S HALL.—THE VOCAL ASSOCIATION.

Conductor, M. BENEDICT.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 25th, at Eight, HANDEL'S *ACIS AND GALATEA*. Mozart's *Così fan tutti*, &c.

Principal performers:—Miss Arabella Goddard, Madame Endersohn, Miss Blukes, Mr. Santley, Mr. Dyson, and Mr. Sims Reeves. Band and choir of nearly 400 performers.

Tickets, 2s. 6d., 5s., 7s. 6d.; Sofa Stalls, 10s. 6d. each.

At all the principal Musicellers, and St. James's Hall Ticket Office, 28 Piccadilly, W.

CHRISTY'S MINSTRELS.

ST. JAMES'S HALL, PICCADILLY.

GRAND CHANGE OF PROGRAMME.

Open every night at 8; Saturday afternoon at 3. Dress Stalls, reserved, 3s.; unreserved seats, 2s. Gallery, 1s. Tickets and places may be secured at Mr. Mitchell's, Royal Library, 33, Old Bond-street; and at the Hall, Piccadilly entrance, from 9 till 6.

ROYAL OLYMPIC THEATRE.

(Leasees—Messrs. F. Robson and W. S. Emden.)

Monday, and during the week, the performances will commence with the entirely new and original Comedietta, by Tom Taylor, Esq., entitled *NINE POINTS OF THE LAW*. Messrs. Addison, G. Vining, H. Wigan, W. Gordon, Miss Cottrell, and Mrs. Stirling.

After which (first time) a new and original Farce, by John Oxenford, Esq., entitled *RETAINED FOR THE DEFENCE*. Characters by Messrs. F. Robson, G. Vining, G. Cooke, H. Wigan, H. Cooper, and Miss Cottrell.

To conclude with *THE PORTER'S KNOT*. Characters by Messrs. F. Robson, G. Vining, G. Cooke, Mrs. Leigh Murray, and Miss Hughes.

Commence at Half-past Seven o'clock.

THE OPERA COLONNADE HOTEL

(late Feuillade's), Charles-street, Haymarket, IS NOW OPEN.

MAN AND HIS HABITS.

Daily, at Three and half-past Eight, DR. KAHN will deliver Lectures at his unrivalled and original Museum, 5, Tichborne-street, facing the Haymarket.

SYLLABUS.—Identity of Self-love and Social—The Philosophy and Physiology of Marriage—Happy and Unhappy Unions—Whom and when to Marry—The Great Social Evil, its real Cause—Philanthropy and their Scheme—Views of Men and Things—Dangers of Youth—Myths of Advanced Age—The true Glory of Middle Age—*My Memoirs*—Much in Little.

The Museum is open daily (for Gentlemen only) from Twelve till Five and from Seven till Ten. Explanation of the Models every half-hour. Admission One Shilling, including Handbook; to which is appended the *SHOALS AND SANDS OF YOUTH*. By JOSEPH KAHN, M.D. Graduate in Medicine, Surgery, and Midwifery, of the Imperial University of Vienna, &c. free by post for twelve stamps, direct from the author, 17, Harley-street, Cavendish-square.

THEATRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET.

(Under the Management of Mr. Buckstone.)

Positively the last week but one of the new Comedy of "The World and the Stage," and last week but one of the engagement of Miss Amy Sedgwick.

On Monday, May 23rd, and every evening during the week (Tuesday excepted) to commence at 7, with the Comedy of **THE WORLD AND THE STAGE**. Characters by Mr. Buckstone, Mr. Compton, Mr. Howe, Mr. W. Farren, Mr. Rogers, Mrs. B. White, Mrs. Poynter, Miss E. Weekes, and Miss Amy Sedgwick.

After which the Easter Extravaganza of **ELECTRA**, with the magnificent scenery by O'Connor and Morris, and last scene by Fenton.

Concluding with **A DAUGHTER TO MARRY**. On Tuesday to commence (for this night only) and by the Duke, Mr. Howe; the Mock Duke, Mr. Buckstone; Lampedo: Mr. Compton; Lopez, Mr. Clark; Rolando, Mr. W. Farren; Julianna (for this night only), Miss Amy Sedgwick; Volante (on this occasion), Miss Balan Zamora, Miss Emily Allen; Hostess, Mrs. Griffith.

After which, **LEND ME FIVE SHILLINGS**. Gollightly, Mr. Buckstone.

Concluding with **ELECTRA**. Miss Amy Sedgwick's engagement terminates on Saturday, June 4th.

Stage Manager, Mr. Chippendale.

OFFICE,
NO. 18, CATHERINE-STREET,
STRAND, W.C.,

The Leader.

SATURDAY, MAY 21, 1859.

Public Affairs.

There is nothing so revolutionary, because there is nothing so unnatural and convulsive, as the strain to keep things fixed when all the world is by the very law of its creation in eternal progress.—DR. ARNOLD.

THE POLITICS OF THE WAR.

THE political movements of the Continent, if less immediately exciting are not less important than the marches and counter-marches of the hostile forces whose operations are now watched with such intense anxiety. Were we able to feel certain that the conflict could be circumscribed in its area and confined to its avowed object—the settlement of the question whether the hateful dominion of the House of Hapsburg shall cease in Italy—there could be no hesitation in throwing our sympathies heartily on the side of France and Sardinia; but we are not only compelled to doubt the disinterested declarations of the French Emperor, and to look to his character with its profound dissimulation, its long cherished ambition, and its unbending will, as affording ground for alarm; we must also view the conduct of Prussia with considerable uneasiness. By resisting the wish of Hanover—stimulated by Austria—that a federal army should be assembled to threaten France on the banks of the Rhine, Prussia has certainly increased the hope that she will act with prudence; but the speech of the Prince Regent, and the hatred to France excited in the minds of all Germans who remember the marauding campaigns of the first Napoleon and his marshals, have created grave doubts whether the influence of the Court of Berlin will be exerted for peace or for war. "Prussia is resolved," says the Regent, "to maintain the basis of international law and the balance of power in Europe." What basis of international law? What balance of power? Are questions anxiously asked in all quarters. A vague declaration of this kind looks very much like a threat against France—not for what she may do, but for her avowed purpose of turning the Austrians out of Italy. Of course, the success of such an operation would change the "balance of the power." Europe might easily find another way of balancing herself, but the particular balance now existing would be overthrown; and, unless compensation were obtained by the union of Germany, France and Russia united would be almost omnipotent, so far as the Continental States were concerned. Prussia is weak against Russia, as her strategists have often pointed out, through the partition of Poland having given to the former Power positions of great military value; and it would be unwise for her, or for any patriotic German to stand by and see Austria depressed without making any movement to guard against the undue subordination of its

Teutonic race. The interest of scores of petty princes will lead them to support Austria if their subjects will permit it, and thus preserve for themselves a little longer the baby game of Royalty in miniature, which they have so long been playing. Prussia has a difficult task to arrange this confederation of minor monarchs, and great allowance must be made for the obstacles to plain speaking that her position entails; still we could wish to see her take higher grounds, and separate more distinctly the free Protestant interests of Germany from the Popish despotism of Austria, which is not, and never can be, a real German Power. We should watch the course of Germany with deep interest, under any circumstances; but we do so now with the additional motive that our own chance of keeping the peace depends very much upon the attitude she assumes. The French Emperor ought to be certified of the moral support of all Europe, provided he keeps strictly to the letter of his promises. There would then be some reason to hope that, after the bankrupt despotism of Austria had suffered a signal defeat, the Italian question might be taken out of the hands of the soldiers, and made the subject of diplomatic arrangement. If, however, Louis Napoleon should be made to feel that he will be thwarted by Germany, even in those points in which he is right, the chief blame will not rest on his shoulders if the war assumes European dimensions. Immunity and approval for doing anything that is reasonable, and in favour of the Italians against their cruel tyrants, or, on the other hand, a strong confederation against him to resist the extension of French dominions—these are the simple alternatives that should be offered to the French Emperor. They would be just, and far more likely to keep the peace than the shuffling uncertainties in which secret diplomacy delights.

The success of the French loan proves that the Emperor can readily obtain five times as much money as he wants for present purposes; and with money in his pocket, and—as we hope he soon will be—with victory over the Austrians in his hands, no one can expect that he will submit to trifling from any opponent.

Europe should be determined to offer him no excuse for doing wrong. Austria has furnished a pretext for one war. Let not the Germans furnish a pretext for another.

The behaviour of Austria ought to unite all hearts against her. The retirement of Count Buol, and the substitution of Count Rechberg is a proof that unmitigated military despotism, and subservience to all that is bad in Popery, are the principles dominant at Vienna, while the atrocities committed upon the inoffensive inhabitants of Piedmont show that the young Emperor is desirous of re-enacting the scenes of disgusting cruelty that rendered his pet, General Haynau, infamous during the revolutionary war.

Military critics were puzzled at the movements of Count Gyulai, and they have only become intelligible now it is apparent that they were the operations, not of a soldier, but of a marauder.

Making every allowance for exaggeration, it is plain that the Austrians, instead of carrying on the war with the decent humanity of a civilised nation, have deliberately and designedly plundered and devastated, with circumstances of sepy brutality, the unfortunate district of Piedmont, in which no resistance was made or attempted. Such a Power deserves the utmost execration; and if it should fall under the assaults of the hero of the *coup d'état*, its punishment will, because it is more ignominious, be also more just.

The mobilisation of a portion of the Russian army, said to amount to about 200,000 men, is a step rendered obviously necessary by the attitude of other Powers, and ought not to excite alarm, unless some good and specific ground for distrust should appear. If such a movement leads to greater caution on the part of Prussia, it will do good; and it should also be remembered that, although Russia may one day be glad of French aid in schemes not consonant with English interests, she can have no desire to see Napoleon III. imitate the aggressive conduct of Napoleon I.

A DAMPER FOR VOLUNTEERS.

GENERAL PEELE'S circular on Volunteer Rifle Corps proves his fitness to be a member of a British Cabinet in days when Parliamentary Reform is a dim expectancy, and not a palpable

fact. It may be regarded as a test paper, proving his ability to emerge with honour from a competitive examination in the grand art of "how not to do it." The thing wanted was, that a large number of able-bodied men, of various ranks and classes, scattered throughout the country, should, as speedily as possible, become good rifle shots, and sufficiently acquainted with military movements, and especially with the art of skirmishing, to render a hostile march through their own district a matter of extreme difficulty and risk. With some hundred thousand regular troops, a considerable force of militia, serviceable pensioners, and dockyard labourers, accustomed to drill, the country need not be anxious for a larger number of soldiers to act in masses and fight a new battle of Hastings, with improved results. What we desire is, that in reckoning the chances of invasion, a foreign power should have to set down every copse as a fortification—every hedgerow as a line of defence; and look to a contest not only at select spots with a few thousand professional men, but to a harassing, tormenting, and deadly fight with the people of every district through which an enemy attempted to push his way.

Were a moderate proportion of the four millions of adults that England alone contains anything like as skilful with the rifle as their forefathers were with the bow, and able to execute the simple manoeuvres that would be required, no fall of autumn leaves in a brisk gale would be more striking than the way in which an invading army would be stripped of its members, and see them cast helpless upon the ground. With a country and a people like ours, we could reduce invasion to a grim practical joke that the most foolhardy despot would be afraid to try. We cannot prevent our neighbours falling out. The Popish powers must hate us for our Protestantism, the despots for our liberty, and those who seek the false glory of conquest must see in us a people who, in defence of justice and civilisation, would be very likely to tear the ensanguined laurel from their brows. With the lapse of ages jealousy and bitterness may die out, but in the present state of society envy waits on proud positions, and to be as successful as England is to possess few reliable friends. It is vain, therefore, to deny that we are surrounded by dangers; since the Peninsula war they have been small, because we have been relatively great; and they will dwindle into insignificance whenever we adopt rational means of developing and methodising the resources at our command. We do not want a system of national defence which is the offspring of a panic, and destined as speedily to pass away, but a sufficient modification of national habits to permit military exercises to take their turn with those outdoor sports which contribute so much to the vigour of our race. The Government scheme can have no such effect, and is, indeed, intended to oppose it. It is not an encouragement, but a formal enunciation of obstacles carefully adapted to hinder Englishmen from touching military affairs. In the first place, nothing can be done without the lord-lieutenant—a sublime functionary, dwelling in a paradise of *Crème de la crème*, far removed from the skim-milk of common life. Those who are very desperate for uniforms, and longing exceedingly for drill, may propose to this great person the formation of a corps. They must be willing to buy their own arms and accoutrements, and hand over to the friendly Moses, or the propitious Nicoll, a considerable cheque in return for the uniform which the lord-lieutenant may approve. They must be officered by any blockheads who will help to keep up the political influence of his lordship's party; they must be prepared to leave their business for eight days in each four months; and take the oath of allegiance before practising the goose step. They would be liable to be called out on the recurrence of actual invasion, or the mere "appearance of any enemy in force on the coast;" and to be ordered off to any place included within the limits of their engagement, "whether the same shall extend to any part of Great Britain, or be limited to any district, county, city, town, or place therein."

Thus, for twenty or thirty pounds a year, which would be getting off cheap, including pic-nics and dinners, the loss of all the working days in a whole month, and much personal inconvenience, Englishmen may be permitted to contribute to the safety of their country by learning the use of arms. General Peel has recapitulated some of the advantages incident to this kind of soldiering, but he

has left the recruiting sergeant to unfold the splendid promises of Sec. XXXIX., in which a grateful country contracts that, "after the defeat and expulsion of the enemy from Great Britain," or the suppression of "rebellion or insurrection," every volunteer (who wishes it) shall receive a guinea, "in order the better to enable him to return to his parish."

It is quite clear that only urgent danger would induce any considerable number of persons in full possession of their faculties to volunteer upon such terms; and we are not surprised that in town after town in which movements have been made to establish rifle corps, dissatisfaction has been expressed with the Government plan.

Nothing can be more simple than the arrangements that would respond to the popular wish, and prove effective in their results; and they seem to have been contemplated when the first of Castle-reagh's Six Acts was passed. The object of this statute, which became law during the British reign of Terror, was to prevent the "clandestine and unlawful" training to arms; and it enacted that all meetings for military exercise should be prohibited and punishable, unless authorised by the Crown, the lieutenant, or "two justices of the peace of any county or riding, by commission or otherwise." If the Government would give justices of the peace or other local authorities the power to license the training of any respectable body of men who might apply for it, the whole thing would be accomplished, and we should see voluntary associations springing up in all directions. It would be easy to make such regulations as would remove all reasonable ground for alarm, and the licenses might be revoked if any misconduct occurred. Under such an arrangement young men would meet on summer evenings after their work was done, and large employers of labour would be able to train their hands without interruption to the course of trade. It is to plans like this, and not to expensive complicated systems that the country should look, if the work is to be done at all. They would give the Government no patronage, enable it to perpetrate no jobs, but they would train up a large number of men who would be willing, when required, to render efficient service to the State. It is not to be expected that any administration will adopt such a rational course if it can help it. Looked at from the point at which most cabinets would contemplate it—that of party interest—it must appear as a surrender of power without any adequate gain in return. The country would indeed be safer; but it would be more self-reliant and less dependent upon the central authority. Neither Whigs nor Tories wish this—they like the people best in long clothes, and by no means desire to see them outgrow the condition of "infants in arms."

Let the people above all things remember that personal skill is of far more consequence to volunteers, who would be employed as skirmishers, than it is to troops destined to act in masses, and that good rifle shooting is far more difficult to acquire than tolerable proficiency in drill. Every day brings inquiries about the choice of weapons, and a popular writer strongly advises that, whatever may be its peculiarities, the rifles used by different societies shall adopt the Government bore. The advantage of uniformity is obvious, but there are other matters to be considered. In the first place the Government, in adopting the Enfield rifle, determined upon a weapon with a very low rate of twist, and consequently unfit to carry a ball approximating to the shape of a solid of least resistance. The experiments in Switzerland, America, France, and Prussia, coincide with those of General Jacob and Mr. Whitworth, and show that at least double the official twist is necessary for shooting with the best kind of projectiles; and after all the puffing which the Enfield rifle has received, its inferiority to Mr. Whitworth's stands confessed. Even Mr. Busk, who benevolently recommends the Government tool, says the efficiency of the Whitworth rifle, as compared with the Enfield, is nearly as 20 to 1! He further tells us: "At 1,880 yards it drove its bullets into the target when the Enfield made no hits at 1,440. As regards accuracy, the Whitworth, at 1,100 yards, was nearly on a par with the Enfield at 600; and when both had a range of 600, the superiority of the Whitworth was in the proportion of 3 to 1."

It would be a great absurdity if a club provided itself with Whitworth rifles and plenty of ammuni-

tion to reduce its crack shots to an unserviceable level by forcing upon them the clumsy Government arm, and if another club should possess Colt's six-shot repeating carbines, whose ammunition is so light that a man can carry three or four times as much as the Enfield sort, it would surely be folly to favour the enemy by taking away the really dangerous weapon and substituting a comparatively innocent one in its place. Without a much more scientific weapon than the Enfield, and a much better projectile, nothing like the accuracy of the Swiss riflemen can be obtained; and we shall be surprised if English amateurs condemn themselves to bad shooting to keep the Government in countenance.

BACKWARDNESS OF GOVERNMENT—

CORN LAWS ABROAD—SEAMEN AT HOME.

As it is no part of the functions of Government to originate or increase knowledge, it is always behind some of the people; and as its chief function is to be conservative of the past, it is always in opposition to present progress. It resists that which is not subservient to its purposes and does not chime in with its ancient prejudices. It always moves slower than the *élite* of the nation, and even when it tries, under some external pressure, or from some whim of its own, to hasten progress, it only misdirects, and ultimately thwarts it. Nobody can say, looking at our steam-engines, railways, telegraphs, at our manufactures and agriculture, that the present age is slow in improvement; but everybody who takes note of the march of society and Government continually reproaches the latter, and all that depends on it, with slowness and backwardness.

At the close of last week the information came from France that the Government, not now having time fully to consider the matter, had allowed the old corn law to be revived, and had continued the use of the sliding-scale. Scarcely a journal of the metropolis but reproached the French Government for retaining this law, seeing that ten years have now elapsed since we got rid of such a nuisance, and every year the advantages of doing so have become more apparent and greater. At the same time, a corn law, though it have a sliding-scale, may be in France—where a watchful Government can suspend it, without consulting the landed interest assembled in parliament, and where the population in a much greater proportion than our own is engaged in agriculture—less strikingly scandalous and destructive than in England. The Government there may be really less backward, considering these circumstances, than the Government here, which enacted the latest corn law in spite of a serious opposition, and continued it in spite of infinite scientific representations for more than a quarter of a century. Admitting the backwardness of the French Government on this point, we cannot, with propriety, claim for our own Government—though our people have much more knowledge on commercial matters than the French—any great forwardness in recognising and acting on the knowledge gained by individuals.

But if our officials should plume themselves on their readiness to move because they were forcibly shoved forward, and made to repeal the corn laws, who, acquainted with their conduct to our gallant seamen, can urge one word in their defence? There may reasonably be doubts as to the operation of expediency laws affecting commerce, till they have been put to the test of experience, but there can be none as to the duty of obeying the laws of justice and morality. All men, and particularly the rulers of society, who exist only to do justice, are bound to obey these, but our Government for ages brutally violated them in spite of remonstrances and resistance in the case of our seamen, and have not yet done them justice. Very nearly a century has now elapsed since it became familiarly known to every reflecting man, that for any and every kind of employment there is always an abundance of candidates, if the payment be in proportion to difficulties and danger. Therefore, it was only necessary for the State to reward the seamen sufficiently, to secure their services to any extent. More than half a century ago this principle was practically and theoretically applied to the navy. There was then a great want of efficient medical men for our ships. The Admiralty was advised to increase their emoluments and raise their rank. It did so, and in a short time there were more well-educated medical men candidates for the situation of sur-

geons than the navy required. Over and over again was this fact, and similar facts, thrust under the nose of the Government, and it was told that it had only to treat seamen as it treated doctor's apprentices and college pupils, and it would at all times get as many as it could possibly require and pay. It was both blind and deaf, and continued to act towards the seamen on a principle utterly inapplicable to all other men. As the medical profession was enlarged, improved, and, we may say, ennobled by the additional price paid for its services at sea, so it was affirmed, with every probability of truth, that more seamen, and of an improved character, benefiting alike the mercantile marine and the navy, would be called into existence by acting on the same principle towards seamen.

In fact, in a small way, the principle has been continually acknowledged. Petty additions have been made to the seamen's wages, and more care taken to provide them with good slops and additional food. On Wednesday week Captain Pin, who seems to have been sent to the North to talk to the seamen, after carefully enumerating these petty improvements, accordingly stated that the Queen's service is now better than the merchant service. Something has been done to carry out the principle, but not enough; for one of the seamen, speaking after Captain Pin, replied—the Government "had not treated the British sailor in a proper manner." The continued use of the *lash* was objected to. "Seamen ought to have the same privileges as the officers,"—i. e. be treated like the surgeons, have half-pay pensions, be respected like men, &c. &c. The Government has actually not yet got so far as to think and act on the thought that seamen must be treated justly and fairly, and a proper market price, whatever it may be, given for their services. No; they are yet to be flogged to make them work. It is still hinted at that impressment may be renewed even yet, after fifty years' experience of the advantage of paying and treating men properly. After the experience of all ages has demonstrated the validity of the principle adopted as to the surgeons; after the Admiralty has had numerous examples of hearts estranged and hands turned against it—the old principle and practice of brutal coercion are still retained and avowed.

By that officers and men were alike injured and degraded. The former were made petty tyrants, the latter slaves. The standard for treating the seamen adopted by the Government influenced and regulated the conduct of the private ship-owner; and the officers and seamen of the merchant service suffered a like degradation to a considerable extent. Both services were deeply injured by our old system, and neither has yet recovered from its effects. At present, however, after all our progress in sound political knowledge, it is thought sufficient to place the seamen of the navy on the same footing as to wages as those of the merchant service, without remembering that it, too, has been degraded by our unjust system. Admitting that the French Government, by its commercial regulations, is behind the knowledge of the age, our Government is in the same predicament, by still retaining the use of the cat in the navy, and still supposing that seamen can be had and governed by following rules condemned in every part of civil society. They are both essentially in the rear, and must be pricked or dragged forward by advancing society, not to stop its march.

Even the means and instruments, such as railways, telegraphs, steam, percussion guns, &c., which Governments use only to destroy, are invented by individuals outside of them, and are generally invented to forward the progress they themselves retard. Their gratification in using the beautiful inventions of art is great in proportion to the mischief they do. In merely organising his armies and setting them in motion, the French Emperor must have had intense delight, for he has flurried all Europe. Even were he now to die a mean death, he has had the gigantic pleasure of terrifying all the political notabilities who scorned and despised him, and he would leave a name that history would for ever glorify. Like the first Napoleon he is the representative of the principle of destruction, and Frenchmen and others, worse than the worst of ancient idolaters who worshipped only images, continually fling themselves under the wheels of this most stupendous of all Juggernauts.

ITALIAN LIBERTY.—No. II.

WHILE Austria lays claim to be German in character she is only so partially; and even in the less barbarous territory so denominated she has managed to suppress intellect and stifle inquiry even in matters not political. Her dominions are the modern Bæotia. Doubt, the parent of truth, is not admitted into her dominions, either in religion or politics, lest it lead to the development of some principle favourable to freedom. No despotism on earth has been so felicitous in the preservation of intellectual darkness. Thus Austria is the enemy of our common humanity. No genius irradiates her, no learning elevates, no generosity ennobles—all is sedulously stifled that is deemed elsewhere to confer glory on character. In Russia, the court, nobles, and merchants are well informed and courteous, if the peasantry are not yet out of serfage; and there the arts are encouraged. In Austria all is stolidity, ignorance, and vice. The extent of social immorality is considered of no moment, if it have no political bearing. Vienna is the brothel of Europe. No celebrated names illustrate Austrian annals, no bright examples of genius. Her glory is her selfishness, her bearing a cold insolence, her public disgraces never shame her. She cherishes her army before every other branch of her service, till its expenses crush her; and is nine times out of ten obliged to employ foreign commanders. She sticks at nothing: take for example the cruel murder of the plenipotentiaries at Radstadt, who met there to negotiate a peace. The Emperor, getting a subsidy, resolved to continue the war. The three unfortunate men set out on their return home, under the security of the honour of Austria, and her safe conduct as well. They had not gone far, when they were stopped by a party of the Emperor's own dragoons, murdered by them, and robbed of their papers. Two were dead, and one, believed mortally wounded, was undesignedly left to tell the tale of the atrocity. The papers of the unfortunate men were the objects of this horrible and unheard of crime, for which Austria did not blush, although it filled Europe with astonishment, because, until then, for mutual convenience, the persons of envoys, plenipotentiaries, and ambassadors had always been sacred. Austria may some day be again the exception—the sole example of the repetition of such a crime, for at this hour she is not ashamed of the past.

But why do I quote these things within the memory of men? I reply, to show that Austria is an exception to all the other states of Europe—republican, monarchical, or despotic. Abject in adversity, arrogant in success, haughty without dignity, shameless under disgrace, and contemptuous of everything which elevates man in the scale of being, with a population of thirty-four millions, she has been successful in veiling her dominions from the intrusion of the arts and sciences, and in deepening the slough of religious and political bigotry, into which, as into another Styx, she dips her population, rendering her people invulnerable to all those considerations which in every other realm find respect and admiration. There is no patriotism in Austria; one despotic individual, moved by capricious ignorance, originates all that speaks—all that possesses animation. His soldiers have no enthusiasm. The cane, and the blows it inflicts—one rank upon another of her stupid soldiery, in a regulated scale as to the number inflicted—supply the place of high military feeling, and the love of glory in other countries. The cane and superstitious fears, then, are the stimulants she applies in place of a love of honour or of country. She tolerates one faith to sanctify tyranny, and knows well how to make use of it, inoculating her military with perverted religion—making Heaven administer to her vices. The press she uses only for the debasement of the human mind. Such, then, is the Power which seeks to enslave the land of the arts and sciences—Italy, so glorious in letters, so honoured in history. How well the crozier is made to contribute to the ends of such a government and the perversion of truth I will give the reader the power of judging. I quote the Austrian catechism, which first states that the end of all education is to make loyal subjects. I omit the questions for the sake of shortness:—

"It is the duty of subjects to honour their sovereign, because they are commanded to do so by God. The precept is written in the Epistle of St. Peter: 'Fear God and honour the king.' We ought to honour our sovereign in the same manner as we

honour our parents, because sovereigns are the fathers of their subjects. Sovereigns are usually called 'Fathers of their people,' because they concern themselves for the welfare of their subjects, in the same manner as parents concern themselves for the welfare of their children."

"It is not enough to show outward respect to sovereigns, bowing before them. It is the will of God that we honour our sovereign in our hearts, respecting him, loving him, wishing him long life and a happy government, praying to God for him, and submitting ourselves obediently to his commands. Subjects are bound to pray for their sovereign, for God has commanded them to do so by the mouth of St. Paul. We ought to pray for our sovereign, in order that we may lead a quiet life, 'in all godliness and honesty.'"

"Other sovereigns must be prayed for, and honoured by being feared, because God has placed the sword in their hands. Good subjects should fear their sovereigns, in the same way as good children fear their parents, by taking care not to offend them. The sovereign, the Scriptures say, is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou dost that which is evil, be afraid, for he beareth not the sword in vain, for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath on him that doth evil. We sin against honouring our sovereign by wishing him misfortune or ill—murmuring at or despising him. Subjects should conduct themselves towards their sovereign as faithful servants conduct themselves toward their masters, because the sovereign is their master, and has power not only over their goods, but over their lives. We ought to be faithful to our sovereign, by studying never to depart from the obedience we are bound to pay him, and to preserve and promote, as far as in us lies, collectively and individually, the honour, dignity, life, and prosperity of his sacred person. Subjects sin against the duty they owe their sovereign by betraying and abandoning him in his necessity. When designs are plotted, it is the duty of subjects to denounce them to their sovereign. Disloyal subjects, although their infidelity may be concealed from man, have to fear the chastisements of God, both temporal and eternal."

"The obedience which subjects owe their sovereign consists in the punctual observance of the laws, and in the docile and cheerful fulfilment of his commands. Disobedience is a sin, and in case the thing commanded be of importance, disobedience is a mortal sin, proved by the words of Holy Writ. In the Epistle of St. Paul to the Romans we read: 'Whosoever, therefore, resisteth power, resisteth the ordinance of God; they shall receive to themselves damnation'—that is, the eternal torments of hell. St. Paul adds: 'Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but for conscience sake.' Subjects are bound to obey bad sovereigns. God has so commanded. St. Peter says: 'Servants, be subject to your masters with all fear, not only to the good and gentle, but also to the froward.' Subjects should obey their sovereign as children should obey their parents. Joseph and Mary, the parents of Jesus Christ, gave a signal instance of such obedience. They went to Bethlehem to be inscribed in the registers forming by order of the sovereign, although the journey was long and painful, in the winter season, in obedience to the order of Augustus, Emperor of the Romans. The consideration of the recompense which God has promised should stimulate obedience, for God recompenses the obedience of subjects with temporal benediction, and with eternal life in heaven."

The same system of monkey, to support absolutism is adopted to make the taxes be paid readily; the not so paying them is a sin, because taxes maintain the court, army, magistrates, &c. "He who has the means of paying and will not pay, transgresses a divine command."

In war, subjects are to abstain from talking lightly about events, because, being ignorant of the true circumstances, they may, by their discourse, mislead the people. Not to be suspected, both citizens and peasantry are to remain quiet at home, attend to their concerns, work, and pray for victory to their sovereign, and peace to their country; and when they suffer loss from the enemy, bear it with patience, trusting in God and their Emperor.

[War is admitted to be a scourge, but there is a long tirade appropriated to soldiers and discipline. The part devoted to desertion is right Austrian, as if written under the cane that enforces everything military.]

"Deserters have to fear being punished by God, and their sovereign, with ills both temporal and eternal. God punishes deserters with sickness, wretchedness, and ignominy. Such ought to be regarded as wretches, who fear neither God nor man. God chastises deserters with eternal damnation. The pain of death is not too severe for them, since in their

perjury they commit a worse sin than theft. A deserter should bear his punishment patiently, without murmuring, or cursing his superiors. He should reflect that he deserves his punishment, and he should adore divine justice!"

While England, France, and other enlightened countries endeavour to elevate the soldier's character for intelligence, and cherish in him a love of duty, a high spirit, a generous enthusiasm, and love of country, Austria brutifies hers; inculcates a hatred to freedom; disciplines men, like mules, with the stick; endeavours to darken their intellects, and ensure obedience by making religious bigotry useful and ignorance more dense—allies worthy her ruler and his system.

Such is the people and such are the governors who desire to govern the fair southern land of literature and the arts which Austria would blot, if she could, from the face of the earth to secure her arbitrary will.

For ravaging Sardinia the Austrian Emperor is personally responsible. It appears that his ministers hesitated: not so the autocrat. His conduct and position remind us, while he is thus crying havoc and vengeance, of Cowper's lines:—

"Think yourself stationed on a towering rock,
To see a people scattered like a flock;
A royal mastiff panting at their heels,
With all the savage thirst a tiger feels;
Then view him self-proclaimed in his Gazette,
Chief monster that has plagued the nations yet."

I have given the true character of the potentate who has kindled war in Europe in defiance of the rights of free nations—who rules over a medley of races ever true to his detestation of all which renders liberty glorious, and the rights of men sacred. One thing is certain, that no "tear will grace his obsequies," should he fall himself into his own pit. PAOLO.

THE GALWAY OUTLAW.

THE picture in "Punch" of Sir James Graham as the "dirty boy," is one which that hoary politician apparently delights to recall to our remembrance. For as many assertions as he knew how to cram into an after-dinner election speech, he has had to make about as many retractions and apologies. As the friend of Italy in his old age, Sir James Graham is grimly amusing. We remember the man who was branded with the everlasting dishonour of breaking the seals of letters in their transit through the Post-office. But since the Tories are supposed to lean towards Austria now, Sir James Graham has become sentimental and poetical about Italy.

There is, however, only one of the late charges made by Sir James Graham, which we think fit to refute and comment on at any length.

Our readers will not fail to remember that we have been constant advocates of the Galway Steamship Line, and of the postal subsidy finally granted to it, as a bare act of justice, by the Government. When, therefore, Sir James Graham declares that this has been a Government election job, we feel bound to refute it, knowing, as we do, the full facts and history of the case, and the absurdity of the fiction which he has propounded.

We may truly say that the concession was demanded by a majority of the British press, representing the mercantile views of the country, and by the Irish nation with one acclaim, including Catholics and Protestants, and excepting only a portion of the inhabitants of the single rival locality of Limerick. No Government, with the slightest pretension to wisdom, honesty, policy, or fairness, could have turned a deaf ear to the moderate requirement of the sister isle. Had the present Ministers done so, they might have been justly accused of narrow-minded jobbery, or the stupid continuance of that traditional tyranny, against which a Grattan hurled the withering scorn of his invective. We are positively not giving the Government any credit for the grant. We are not making a gift for the Tories out of a tardy act of grace and justice; but we deny emphatically that they have thereby secured any Irish votes. If they had, they might afford to admit it. There is no jobbery in deriving a benefit from a deed of justice—one that it would have been oppression to refuse. The carrying trade of Ireland is rightly her own; whether it is a

question of linen or letters, of emigrants or provisions. As it is, England has exported Irish products, and credited her own trade returns with the amount thus absorbed or re-exported. Sir James Graham appears as the champion of a monopoly. Sir Samuel Cunard, who has done far more for New York city than for all British America, has, according to this ancient follower of Peel, a vested interest in or on the ocean.

The pretended free-trade enemies of all subsidies never opposed the renewal of Cunard's contract. The *Times*' City article was silent enough then. But Sir James Graham has actually the audacity to complain that the Cunard grant is likely to be injured by the grant of 70,000*l.* a year to Ireland. We have said that ministers have not gained any votes by this contract. We cannot point to one that they have secured. The Government exercised not the slightest influence on the Galway election. Mr. Lever was returned on the shoulders of the people of Galway—electors and non-electors—before the contract was signed. Is not Lord Dunkellin, a Liberal of a somewhat malignant stock, returned with him? We are no Tory advocates, as is well known; but truth and honour, as well as the public interests, demand this defence of the Galway grant at our hands.

The grant of the Galway subsidy has done more to reconcile Ireland with England, to create a good feeling, and to do good to the Irish people, than Royal visits, Crystal Palaces, Vice-Royal patronage and entertainments, and all the forced religious concessions with which Whiggery would outbid Toryism, and which it fondly claims as its own, and for itself alone.

This, indeed, is better than the diplomatic appointment to a foreign court of a shrieking opponent of Saxon legislation, or the bestowal of the highest legal appointment upon the lowest betrayer of his country's cause. What, then, shall we say, of the money that will be eventually saved to this country by this fair purchase of Ireland's heart and sympathy? What has the nation paid for the Irish constabulary? What have State trials and prosecutions cost? At what figure has oppression as well as repression been exercised. Turn to one little item—Lord Clarendon's secret service money flung away upon the worthless advocacy of hireling scribes. Thousands upon thousands have been lavished in bribery and blood-money upon Ireland; thousands bestowed in charity upon victims who have had the sense to feel the full force of honest ingratitude for the alms which they never should have needed. The cost of a misgoverned country is incalculable. It is direct and indirect, and bears a compound interest. "I have agitated," said in effect lately, a distinguished Irish Roman Catholic clergyman, "for forty years unavailingly in the wrong direction." That which was in him the blind indignation of patriotism is now the enthusiastic acceptance of a new era for Ireland. The Galway grant, with all that it comprehends and promises, is the initiation of the dawn of mercantile prosperity and social improvement in a country which has too long suffered from neglect and cruelty. It may be fortunate for the members of the present Government, that circumstances have forced upon them this recognition of Irish claims. They have perhaps done no more than they could help, or than has been forced upon them, by the necessities and the intelligence of the nation. They have at least escaped the disgrace of opposing such a grant; nor can they be taxed with the dishonour of misrepresenting, with the falsehood of selfish faction, and an abandoned unscrupulousness which nothing can exceed, the most creditable deed of their opponents, one which evokes the true gratitude of a nation and commands the patriotic approval of every honest man.

An accident has taken place on the railway from Vienna to Marbourg, by which five carriages were knocked to pieces.

LITERATURE, SCIENCE, ART, Etc.

LITERARY NOTES, ETC.

THE funeral oration upon the late Alexander Von Humboldt was pronounced in the cathedral of Berlin, on the 10th, by the Very Rev. Dr. Hoffmann, Bishop of the Protestant Established Church of Prussia. On the following day his will was opened in the presence of his nephews. All his property was found to be bequeathed to his old valet, Konrad Seiffert, who had served him for so many years, and accompanied him in the later period of his wanderings. Humboldt was born a comparatively wealthy man, the portion left to him by his father amounting to about 10,000*l.* Before he reached his fortieth year all, however, had been expended on his travels and other scientific pursuits. From that time down to the present, Humboldt lived on a small pension granted to him by the Government and the profits derived from his literary labours. Four hundred thalers (£60) and a most extensive library is all that he left. A great quantity of plate, presented to him on different occasions, forms the most valuable portion of Seiffert's inheritance.

On the subject of the import of English books into Canada, the *Publisher's Circular* says:—"The recent proceeding of the Canadian Legislature, in taxing the import of English books, is taken with unaccountable apathy by our press. It affects the best interests of literature, and involves a great question of right of a colony to thus injure home trade. It is no light matter that, as publishers, we find ourselves deprived, without any warning, of a market for our books to an extent of at least 4000*l.* a year, a market that was yearly improving, and one that we naturally regarded as to be depended upon. The impost amounts to a prohibition, causing to be substituted for the regular demand a supply of cheap reprints from the adjoining States. The measure greatly aggravates the injustice hitherto suffered by English authors from the admission of reprints into Canada; for whilst books under this objectionable tariff will have to pay 10 per cent., United States pamphlets and magazines are admitted free.

The Paris *Moniteur* of yesterday announces that the council has instituted the Counsellor of State, M. de la Guéronnière, in the post of director *pro tempore* of printing, of the library, of the press, and of the street sale of publications.

The copyright of *Household Words*, with the stereotype plates and stock, were sold this week by Mr. Hodgson. The property was finally knocked down to Mr. Arthur Smith (who was understood to be acting for Mr. Dickens) for the sum of 3,550*l.*

Messrs. Bradbury and Evans announce that, on the 2nd of July, they will publish the first number of a new illustrated periodical, entitled *Once a Week*. The last number of *Household Words* will be published on the 28th, after which date that publication will merge into *All the Year Round*.

Nothing daunted by the disrespectful laughter which greeted the lyric in question, we hear that Mr. M. W. Balfe has composed music to the lines "Riflemen Form," which appeared in the *Times* last week.

Messrs. Saunders and Otley announce the commencement of a new novel by the author of "The Heir of Radclyffe." It is called "Hopes and Fears; or, Scenes from the Life of a Spinster."

M. Edmund About's last clever book has been seized at the booksellers' shops in Paris, but not until many thousand copies had been sold. The *Constitutionnel* announces that the introduction of "La Question Romaine" was not authorised, and that the work is to be prosecuted. As it was published in Brussels it is not easy to see how this is to be done. Perhaps the booksellers who sold it are to be tried.

FANKWEI; OR, THE CRUISE OF THE SAN JACINTO IN THE SEAS OF INDIA, CHINA, AND JAPAN. By W. M. Wood, M.D., U.S.N.

LEAVING NO efforts unmade to establish their commerce upon a firmer basis in the Eastern Seas, the Americans rested not till they had anticipated the English, by effecting with Japan the Perry treaty of 1852, by which it was stipulated that in 1856, a consul should take up his residence at Simoda.

Accordingly, in that year, an armed squadron was equipped for the purpose of conveying to that port with all due pomp and circumstance, the Hon. Townsend Harris, who was also commissioned to obtain, *en route*, a new treaty with Siam. These

objects being attained, the squadron was to cruise in the Chinese seas, in order to watch over American interests, during the misunderstandings then in progress between the English and Celestials.

Accompanying the squadron in its two years' cruise in the capacity of surgeon to the fleet, Dr. Wood, who is as close an observer as he is a graphic writer, obtained the materials for this very fresh, pleasing, and instructive book. Passing over a considerable amount of spleen, at the false and humiliating position of medical officers in the United States Navy, which, if we are to believe our author, is not unlike that of English naval surgeons in the days of Smollett; we have a panoramic series of views, which leave an agreeable impression upon the mind. The voyage is given with the detail of an old itinerary, no place worthy of note being omitted. Madeira, with its genial climate, delicious scenery, fine wines, invalids, and numerous beggars; Ascension, with its turtles, with an introduction to a state prisoner, the King of Bonny, who it appears was deprived of his liberty for the sole reason that

"British merchants wanted to buy all the palm oil at lower rates than he would dispose of it or allow it to be sold by his subjects; therefore he was imprisoned for interfering with trade. At first he was kept upon the coast, but managing to send an order to his dominions, still prohibiting the sale on any but his own terms, it was thought expedient to send him more remote from his dominions. He himself said the English were great rascals, they shut the Emperor Napoleon up in St. Helena, and him in Ascension."

Thence to our colony in South Africa, whose wildernesses are now covered with grain fields, orchards, and vineyards, producing the most luscious wines; farms yielding that which is literally the "Golden fleece" of the colony—wool, whose increase of export has gone on from a few thousand pounds to increasing millions, and whose progressive increase is beyond estimate, and which, must, if its various races of negroes and Europeans ever become permanently peaceful, prove the finest colony in the world. Thence into the Indian seas, to the Mauritius, where we are a little surprised at being told of the existence of slave dealing beneath the British flag.

"These people were originally brought into the island by the British government as a substitute for the negro population, rendered worthless by the emancipation of 1835. They are compelled to serve five years of what is called "industrial residence," and the best of these men get three dollars a month wages. At the end of the five years, if they desire it, they are returned to their own country, but most prefer to remain where they are, and enter into various pursuits upon their own account. During their term of servitude they are liable to coercion, but can complain against undue severity. A regular slave-trade transaction has just taken place. A ship came in from the coast of Africa with a cargo of negroes, and they were sold at eighty dollars each, nominally for the passage money. They had been kidnapped and stolen from Africa. This is an English possession."

After which we find ourselves at Point de Galle (Ceylon), the first touching-place of cadets and the last stopping place in India of old Indians, which appears to be the veritable island of jewels, and crowded with "real material, ebony chairs, sofas, bureaux, boxes, canes richly carved, and glittering masses of topaz, in the shops and in the streets, with sapphires, rubies, and amethysts." As might be expected in such a town, it abounds with peripatetic vendors of sham jewellery, whose faith is great in the gullibility of the visitors. From one of these the Doctor purchased a ring for one dollar and fifty cents, the price asked having been twelve pounds. Arriving at the "Gem of the Indies," Pulo Penang, the author is in ecstasy with its perpetual spring, cocoa-nut and palm groves, nutmeg orchards, and its picturesque population of Chinese, Malays, Hindoos, Mahomedans, and Europeans. The gem, however, is a little dimmed by the business portion of the town with its narrow streets, foul smelling ditches, and its multiplicity of toddy bang and opium shops, all of which with their miserably attenuated *habitudes* are graphically pictured. Then Singapore—when having passed through the Gulf of Siam, the "stars and the stripes" are hoisted, the band plays "Yankee Doodle," and the Americans are "at home" in Bangkok, the capital of the amphibious, semi-nude, double-king'd Siamese, to the painting of whom Dr. Wood devotes several of his most quaint

interesting chapters full of racy descriptions of manners and customs, and portraits of native princes and nobles with whom the Doctor formed pleasant acquaintanceship; then we are introduced to an old friend of Sir John Bowring's book, the second King, Professor of the Pali language, litterateur and student of the English language. Here is his Majesty "at home."

"We entered a large room, and passed from one end of it into a royal snuggery. Here the King received us in an unostentatious and gentlemanly manner. He wore a rich black satin jacket over an embroidered skirt, and a changeable peach-blossom sarong, with embroidered slippers. The room had a long table in the centre, covered with a maroon silk cloth, and over it hung a punka. On each side of the room were hair-seat sofas, and over that on one side, was a coloured lithograph of Queen Victoria, Prince Albert, and five of their children—a present to the King. Over the opposite sofa was hung a map of the United States; and at each side of it an oil portrait of Presidents Washington and Pierce—recently presented. A very large alabaster vase, and several small paintings, were among the decorations of the apartment; and in the corners were correct statuettes of Napoleon, Wellington, Prince Albert and Victoria, modelled by a Siamese artist, after engravings. One end of this apartment opened upon a smaller one, in which, neatly arranged, were his electrical and philosophical apparatus; and on one side of it opened into a secluded study, in which were many elegant and convenient arrangements: chemical apparatus and tests; a silver mounted desk; handsome brass field bed, and brass, morocco-covered rocking-chair. In this study, and in the main apartment, were book-cases, filled with standard authors, American and English; in general literature, history, science, theology, and military affairs."

Having effected a treaty with the King of Siam the squadron proceeded to Simoda, where, notwithstanding the terms of the treaty of 1852, it was not without much skirmishing upon the part of the reluctant Japanese, and the exercise of considerable determination by the Commodore and Mr. Harris, that the latter gentleman was permitted to remain in his new capacity—a useful hint to the out-going English Consul. Having at length succeeded, the officers visited the streets and bazaar, made purchases of lacquer ware, and although the Doctor found the Japanese, not by any means so moral as they have been painted, he found the tradesmen and their assistants so honest that by comparison they shamed his own countrymen. Although the information contained in the chapter devoted to Japan is but little, that little is good and valuable, as being the experience of a shrewd and truthful observer.

Thus far, the first two portions of the book; the third division is filled with the "doings" of Americans and English in China during the recent war, but, with the exception of an admirable view of the now Anglicised and Americanised city of Shanghai, it does not present much information. It is known interesting to those who like to obtain from a rival point of view the English proceedings among the Celestials during the stormy events from the affair of the Iorchu, "Arrow," to the taking of Canton, the capture of Yeh, the reign of terror in Hong Kong during the assassinations by the "Braves," the Easing or Alum poisonings, and the after quarrels of the ill-matched Kilkenny cat-like officials, which have been recently somewhat flippantly characterised by the leading journal as "a storm in a tea-pot." Further, in justice to the Doctor we may add, that "Frankwei" is the most interesting and truth-like of modern books of travels in these now all-important countries of China, Siam, and Japan.

A MANUAL OF GEOGRAPHICAL SCIENCE.

Parker and Son.

The present volume contains two parts, one on Ancient Geography, by the Rev. W. L. Bevan, and the other on Maritime Discovery and Modern Geography, by the Rev. C. G. Nicolay. The first portion, which occupies about a quarter of the book, affords a succinct, well-written account of ancient writers and discoveries, which will prove sufficient for general purposes of education or reference. Anything more elaborate than a sketch of this branch of the subject would be out of place in a work whose main object is to exhibit the science as it is, and in which historical matter can only be introduced incidentally. The second portion begins with a summary of Maritime Discovery, rendered additionally useful by references to

works giving more elaborate information. The author then proceeds to Descriptive Geography, properly so called, which occupies more than 300 closely-printed pages, and which, taken in connexion with the previous volume and maps, brings within the reach of the student the chief facts and doctrines of modern geographical science. It is not long since geography, as ordinarily taught, afforded only an exercise to the memory, which was crammed with a multitude of facts uninteresting and useless, because they were isolated and unconnected with any generalisation that could excite the imagination or gratify the intellect. Now, however, the rise of physical geography and the increase of information concerning the actual contour and structure of the most important portions of the globe have imparted a new character to geographical study, and from being one of the driest it has become one of the most interesting pursuits, having for its chief difficulty the want of a concentration of materials scattered through a multitude of volumes. To a large extent, the work before us has removed this obstacle, and a great service would be rendered to popular education if it were well studied by those whose function is to teach. We have had opportunities of witnessing the contracted effect upon pupils of the common-place method of teaching, and of good oral lessons on physical and descriptive geography. In the one case the portions of the globe under discussion seemed to the pupil as dead as the lesson itself; in the other all started into life as the effect of the position of masses of land and water, the direction and complication of coast lines, the nature of slopes, and the disposition of mountain chains came into view. Much of this kind of information has been popularised in this country by cheap editions of the works of Humboldt, and by Guyot's "Earth and Man," and we cannot doubt that a desire has been created for more detailed instruction such as the present book will afford. From the condensation required to keep the work within the requisite bounds and price, the reader will not expect that brilliancy of description and beauty of style necessary for pleasant reading; but in addition to aiding systematic study it will prove useful as a sort of dictionary for reference, when the character of any particular country is a matter of special interest. As an illustration of this we quote a few passages from the geography of Italy, that will throw light upon the positions and operations of the armies now contending in the valley of the Po.

THE SCENE OF WAR.

"The Upper Course of the Po.—This river, the Padus or Eridanus of the ancients, rises in the eastern precipices of Mont Viso, at an elevation of above 6,500 feet, in immediate proximity to the sources of the Durance; and flowing first to the south and by east to north, and then again by east to south, takes a double course formed by two semi-circular arcs, having diameters of about seventy-five miles, and giving to the upper basins of the Po a length of about 125 miles; while its breadth, from the sources of the Dora Baltea on the north to those of the Bormida on the south, will exceed 150.

"The steepness of the southern and eastern slopes of the Alps gives great rapidity to the upper waters of the Po and its northern affluents, and therefore on arriving at the level plain, at the foot, they are subject to serious inundations; the course of the river becomes tortuous, its stream sluggish, obstructed by shoals and sand-banks, and forming numerous channels; this character becomes apparent even in its upper basin, at the eastern extremity of which the river attains a breadth of about 1,500 feet.

"The affluents of the upper basin are on the right: the Vraita, the Maira, and the Grana, which, uniting together, fall into the main stream; the former rises in Col d'Agnello, and opens a passage into France. These are separated from the Tanaro, the next affluent of the river from the right, by the heights of Montferrat, which, projecting from the maritime Alps, obtrude themselves on the course of the Po and turn it northward, as already noticed, and fill the second semi-circular arc; and while the Tanaro collects the streams which fall from the southern slope, the main stream flowing round those to the north does not receive any affluent from them.

"The Tanaro passes along the diameter of the semi-circle above alluded to, in an irregular north-east course. This is a considerable stream, rising in the Col de Tende, and having a course of 125 miles, for forty of which it is navigable: it has several affluents, some of which are considerable; on the left the Eleno and the Sterra, and on the right the Bormida, formed by the confluence of two streams of the same

name, and the Orba. The basin of the Tanaro wears the aspect of an elevated plain intersected with deep valleys.

"The Scrivia and Coppo traverse a fertile country, and fall into the Po on the limit of its upper basin. The affluents of the left are, the Clusone, which rises in Mont Genevre, and receiving one affluent from the pass of Abries, falls into the main stream after a course of about fifty miles.

"The Doria Riparia, also rising in Mont Genevre and connecting the passes of that mountain with those of Mont Cenis at the Pas de Susa, it is divided from the Doria Baltea by the smaller affluents, Stura and Orca.

"The Doria Baltea rises from two sources in Mont Blanc, and which open the passes of the Great and Little St. Bernard, communicating with the upper valleys of the Rhone and Isère: it receives numerous torrents, and has a rapid course over a deep and rocky bed.

"The Seria, which has its sources in the southern declivities of Mont Rosa; it is a stream of considerable size, but unimportant, as not opening communication across the Alps; it receives the Cervio from the right. The upper course of this river is through a wild mountain valley, its lower through a flat country, through which it forms anabranches, and is connected with the other affluents on the right and left by canals; its extreme length may be estimated at eighty-five miles; it is the stream intermediate in character as in position between the upper and middle basins of the Po."

THE ROMANCE OF THE RANKS; OR, ANECDOTES, EPISODES, AND SOCIAL INCIDENTS OF MILITARY LIFE. By J. W. J. Connolly, Quartermaster of the Royal Engineers, Author of the "History of the Royal Sappers and Miners." In 2 vols. Longman and Co.

WHEN collecting the materials for his "History of the Royal Sappers and Miners," Mr. Quartermaster Connolly found many little "episodes of social life," chiefly relating to the corps, that were hardly suitable for the graver work, but which were highly interesting so far as they illustrated the "inner life" of the British soldier better than any work that could be written specially on the subject. The latter has been the author's main object in publishing these volumes. It was a good idea to paint the character of the soldier in all the phases of his life from his actions. A man can best be judged by his deeds, and so far as the Royal Sappers go, this work gives us a good insight into their habits and customs. But as there is a great deal of difference in the character of the men that constitute the Sappers and Miners, and other bodies of our army,—there is a vast deal of difference in the men in the Guards and the men in the Sappers—men of a totally different class; and as Mr. Quartermaster Connolly's work only treats of the Sappers it can scarcely be said to be more than an instalment (a very good one, we admit) towards our knowledge of the character of the British soldier. From the title of the work we expected, of course, to find some anecdotes selected from all regiments of our army. Had Mr. Connolly extended his field of operation his work would have been more interesting and certainly more amusing—necessarily so, from the larger quantity of material he would have had to choose from. Many of the incidents contained in the present work could then have been omitted, some curtailed, and the colouring of others dispensed with. That the interest of some of the best "sketches of character" should be spoiled to the civilian by the withholding the actor's name is no fault of Mr. Connolly's. The names of these persons will, of course, be recognised in the army. Here our fault-finding ends. We had marked several sketches to quote, but owing to our lengthened remarks we can give but two or three; and here is the first, called—

A GHOSTLY MISTAKE.—S—n, one of the sick orderlies of Woolwich, was directed to remove from a certain ward a gunner who had just ceased the mortal struggle. Taking the shell, he went by mistake to the bedside of a poor sufferer, almost gone, to place him in it.

"What—do you want—with me?" muttered the dying man, every word costing him a pang.

"To put you into this box!" said the orderly, with unfeeling coolness.

"But—I pray you won't—for—I am still alive!"

"Hold your tongue!" rejoined S—n, reproachfully. "Don't you think the doctor knows better than you?"

Here is another, which, we are told, is horribly true in the time of war:—

A HOPEFUL SOLDIER.—An engineer of the

world-wide celebrity, on visiting a parallel which was in course of completion by a party of the corps, went up to the nearest sapper to interrogate him with reference to the work he was executing. The workman was Private Solomon Whelan, who was not remarkable for wit or good sense. Col.: What is your name, sir?—Sap.: Solomon Whelan, sir. Col.: Well, Solomon Whelan, what slope is that?—Sap.: A very good slope, sir. Col.: But what is its name?—Sap.: A slope, sir. Col.: You are a very stupid fellow.—Sap.: Yes, sir. The colonel paused to scrutinise the genius, and having surveyed him from head to heel, resumed the examination. Col.: Supposing the first sapper were killed, what would you do with him?—Sap.: Stuff him in the gabion. Col.: And what would you do with the second, if he were killed?—Sap.: Make a fascine of him.

Others of a different class are to be found in abundance. The one headed *Reading the Mutiny Act* is excessively funny, while the one called the *Biter Bit* illustrates another phase of life; while the one called *The Poor Peer with a Long Pedigree* is a romance in itself; and so we might go on, naming different anecdotes as descriptive traits of all kinds of life in the ranks, not all of which would tell favourably towards the morality of the army. We have said that as far as Quarter-master Connolly's work goes it has succeeded, and the work before us should greatly add to the author's already well-earned literary reputation. We think that the "Romance of the Ranks" will give the civilian the best idea on the social life of the soldier extant; and we hope, should Mr. Connolly still have time to spare, that he will give us some more of these anecdotes, only they should be collected from all parts of our army.

Trust for Trust. By A. J. Barrowcliffe, Author of "Amberhill." In 3 vols.

Smith, Elder and Co. "TRUST FOR TRUST" is a great improvement on "Amberhill." When the latter was published, two or three years back, we gave it as our opinion that Mr. Barrowcliffe would write better things. We have not been disappointed, and "Trust for Trust" justifies our expectations of the author's abilities. It is sometimes, we imagine, easier to write a novel than to define its purpose or character when written—easier to invent a plot and fill in the dramatic personae than to analyse it. "Trust for Trust" is a peculiar class of novel, and one that is extremely difficult to describe. When the reader commences its perusal he will expect to find a story of wild Welsh life—full of the picturesque scenes and habits of the Welsh people. But as the tale develops it assumes a totally different character. Instead of romantic excitement, we have the interest of everyday life in a country town—descriptions of squabbles at vestry elections, riots, attacks upon factories, comical courtships—in fact, a little of everything, and of which the author has made good use. Anthony Forrest, the hero, is a clever young man, who marries a Welsh girl, whom his parents have educated; and deeming himself the only man with brains in his native place, he devotes himself to his regeneration, he intrigues successfully, is twice elected Lord Mayor, and finally becomes the great man of Porchester. But his ideas are antiquated—his conceit is sublime, and in the end he discovers that he has been on the wrong path. His desire for fame has caused him to neglect and tyrannise over a wife who fondly loves him, and can scarcely, at first, be brought to see a fault in him. An early rival comes to the town and enters into various combinations against him—poisons his mind against his wife, circulates all kinds of rumours calculated to injure them both—runs away with the wife under the pretext of helping her to find a child she has lost—puts a wrong construction on her flight in a letter to her husband, and succeeds for a time in undermining their happiness. In the end, however, everything is cleared up satisfactorily, and the husband and wife see where each have erred; and, retiring from the busy world, they make for themselves a home, and, are satisfied with quiet domestic comfort.

Mr. Barrowcliffe finishes everything he undertakes: he knows his purpose and follows it up, and rarely wanders from the point. He has a story to tell, and he tells it in a straightforward manner. It is seldom we find, even in this great age of novel writing, so much that is pleasant and so little to object as there is to be found in "Trust for Trust." It contains much original thought and fresh humour, and we cordially recommend it to our readers.

Village Belles; a Tale of English Country Life. By the author of "Mary Powell" &c. &c. A new edition, revised. In 1 vol. Richard Bentley

In the preface the authoress thus feelingly speaks of the composition and merits of "Village Belles."

"This little tale was written long years ago in an old priory on the banks of the Mole * * *. I have tried to correct, as well as abridge this story, but it is incurably young and inexperienced, and after all top-dressing, remains but daisied meadow grass. What memories it recalls! I cannot be so hard on it as its demerits deserve, nor, I hope, will the reader be."

The authoress should be well satisfied with these memories. Few writers have achieved so many successes and had so few failures. As to the merits of "Village Belles," we are inclined to think very highly, bearing in mind the very early date of life at which the work was written by the author. It certainly bears the stamp of the writer's later works, although the impression may be fainter. As the work will be quite a new work to most of the novel readers of the present day, we recommend them to get it and judge of its "demerits" for themselves. We have read it through, and been highly pleased with its perusal.

The Rose of Ashurst. By the Author of "Emelia Wyndham," "Two Old Men's Tales," &c. &c.

Thomas Hodgson. "THE ROSE OF ASHURST" is the first volume of a new series of novels, to be published monthly by Mr. Thomas Hodgson, late proprietor of the "Parlour Library." "The Rose of Ashurst" is too well known to novel readers to require any comments from us. We think it equal to the best of Mrs. Marsh's productions. To commence with such works as this argues well for the future of Mr. Hodgson's undertaking, in which we wish him every success.

[As we have no motive but to give, as nearly as circumstances of time and space will permit, the truth regarding any work we notice, we insert the following communication; and since it contains additional information, we do so with the greater readiness. It need hardly be said that there is no subject on which men's interpretations will more differ than Etymology.]

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE LEADER."

SIR.—It is indifferent to me what a reviewer may write about my work, provided he will not misrepresent me. In your review of "Local Etymology," under Watford, the reviewer states that a branch of the Colne flowing through Watford is called the "Gade," and that "Wat-ford" may be a corruption of *Gade-ford*. The Gade is not a branch of the Colne, and does not flow through Watford, but falls into the Colne near Rickmansworth. I have not derived *Runnede* as stated in the review. If the name be referred to, it will be seen that I have given two derivations (both quotations), and the reviewer might have quoted the most reasonable—just as well as the least reasonable—etymology. The derivation of *Pimlico*, from Ben Pimlico, is not mine, but (as by referring to the name will appear) is a quotation from "Notes and Queries." The derivation of *Woking* I believe to be the correct one, and to be totally unconnected with that of *Oakingham*, or rather *Oakingham*, in Berks; and if the history of Bucks and the other authorities had been consulted there would have been no necessity for the suggestion that the money collected by the Eton boys at the *Monten* was called from the locality, any more than there is for the observation that "money" is not generally called "salt." I have not stated that money is generally, or ever has been, so called, although it is a well known fact that the Romans made "salt" a portion of their soldiers' *salarium*, or salary. I spoke of "salt money," not "salt." Again, notwithstanding the sneer of the reviewer, if the authorities are consulted, the derivation of *Tooley-street* will be found to be the correct one, although the same would not be so apparent without the link which I have given. My work is said to be deficient in numberless English names, and that the foreign names have been selected upon no principle. Now, the British derivations amount to about 2,000, and the foreign ones to about 1,000; and if an unprejudiced reader will look through them I think he will say I have given nearly every name which is likely to be of interest to the general reader. I have also to complain that, in the second paragraph of the review, the writer appears to be correcting my derivations, whereas he is in reality quoting the work itself.

Gray's Inn.

R. S. CHARNOCK.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

The Story of the Life of George Stephenson, Railway Engineer. By Samuel Smiles. John Murray.
Notes of the Principal Pictures Exhibited at the Royal Academy. Smith, Elder and Co.
Romantic Tales. A new edition. Smith, Elder and Co.
The Two Paths, being Lectures on Art, &c. Smith, Elder and Co.
England and Her Soldiers. By Harriet Martineau. Smith, Elder and Co.
Out of the Depths; the Story of a Woman's Life. Cambridge, McMillan and Co.
Manchester Walks and Wild Flowers. Whittaker and Co.

The Vicissitudes of Italy since the Congress of Vienna. By A. L. V. Gretton. Routledge and Co.
The Royal Academy; Review No. 2. Kent and Co.
Things not Generally Known. Kent and Co.
Studies in English Poetry. By Josh. Payne. A. Hall, Virtue and Co.
Speculations Literary and Philosophic. By Thos. de Quincey. James Hogg and Sons.
Critical Suggestions on Style and Rhetoric. James Hogg and Sons.
The French Master—for Beginners. By Mons. Le Page. Effingham Wilson.
A Key to the Elements of Commercial Arithmetic. By W. Tate. Effingham Wilson.
Clarke's Railway Excursion Guide for May. H. G. Clarke and Co.

Fine Arts.

THE colossal figure now on show in the garden of Apsley House has drawn forth the following among other critical remarks from a correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph*, who subscribes himself "One in the crowd." It will be observed that the writer claims certain postulates which may, or may not be conceded. He considers the work to be "placed where it is, to show the public how much better a work the Baron Marochetti could have produced than the one selected by Government, and how much better, in all cases, it would be to do as was done with the Scutari monument, viz.—give it to the duke's friend?" and continues:—

"Baron Marochetti having thus thrust himself before the public, I think no one can complain if I offer a few remarks on the work itself. The paragraphs your correspondent speaks of state that this figure is intended for a Victory, and that it is to form part of a monument, to be erected in St. Paul's, to the memory of the 'Iron Duke.' As the baron has not contradicted this, I may take it for granted that a Victory it is.

"The work, as an artistic production, is not good; the modelling of the flesh is bad, and the posture of the figure is constrained. A figure to represent Victory should, to my mind, convey an idea of triumph, of exultation, and should be standing, not sitting, as though ruminating on a defeat, or envious of some other's triumph.

"If, however, I have mistaken the baron's intentions, and his meaning be to represent 'Envy' or a 'Rebellious Angel,' or anything in which the baser passions are to predominate, then I should say he had succeeded admirably; but even then I should take an exception to the wings, about which there is nothing noble or elegant; and to the treatment of long lines in the drapery, which are very pin-fish.

"My opinion is, that the Baron Marochetti, having refused to enter into a competition with his brother artists, has no right now to come forward to endeavour to upset the decision which has been arrived at. And I am sure that it would not be conducive to the honour of the nation that any change should be made in the artist to whom the execution of this monument has been entrusted.

"How the Duke of Wellington can be so wanting in good taste as to interfere in a matter in which he, above all others, should be silent, is a matter of astonishment to most persons. Of that, however, we have no right to complain, unless any other means are used to influence the Government. In all cases in which the nation has to pay for an artistic production there should be a fair field and no favour, and in my opinion anything done after a competition has resulted in an award is both unfair and ungentlemanly."

THE last week or ten days has enriched our table with no less than three Exhibition Handbooks of different degrees of merit. First there came the second annual number of the "Royal Academy Review," being a guide to the Exhibition of the Royal Academy, containing original, critical, and descriptive notices of upwards of 250 works of art, by "The Council of Four," published by Messrs. Kent & Co., 86, Fleet street. Then came from Messrs. Smith, Elder, & Co., "Notes on some of the principal Pictures exhibited in the rooms of the Royal Academy, the old and new Societies of Painters in Water-colours, the Society of British Artists, and the French Exhibition. No. V. 1859. By John Ruskin, M.A., &c., &c." Lastly, Messrs. Arthur Hall, Virtue, and Co., in their "Review of the Exhibition of the Royal Academy and other Art Galleries, by John Stewart." In our opinion, the last of these is, beyond all question, the first in merit. Though avowedly the work of a plain consulting and contracting decorator, it is as rich in its conscientious, rational, real criticism, as the edict of "The Council of Four" is in judicious mediocrity, and the pamphlet of the Graduate in now flippant, now rapid, but ever unsatisfying—maundering. These pamphlets are, of course, written and printed with a view to £ s. d.; they are also to be bought as money's worth. Let us say, then, that for his shilling the

purchaser may get a fairish equivalent from the Concellors, a very excellent one from the Decorator, but from the Graduate a wretched groat's worth—a parcel of waifs and strays from Mr. Ruskin's blotting book, hooped or coupled together by a few sound criticisms on pictures most capriciously selected.

Theatres and Entertainments.

DRURY LANE THEATRE.

On Monday Mdle. Brambilla appeared as *Gilda*, in "*Rigoletto*," a part intimately associated with the name and fame of one still dear to opera goers. The impression left by her performance was, that although a cantatrice of much capability, she had still a steep road before her. She was called for after the third act, in which her duo with *Rigoletto* (Signor Pagotti)—a painstaking and agreeable vocalist—was very nicely sung. Signor Mongini added to his already marked popularity by his version of the *Duke of Mantua*. His great air in the first act was given in his best manner, as was the famous "Donna e Mobile," which was most warmly and genuinely accorded, as was the gem of the opera, the quartet in the same act.

On Tuesday a repetition of the still fresh and ever-improving "*Trovatore*" introduced Mdle. Titiens as *Leonora*. In all the opportunities offered during the first three acts to a real *prima-donna*, the charming Hungarian was no less admirable than in her last season at the old Haymarket Opera-house. In the fourth act, where the "*Miserere*" is the prelude to a magnificent series of lyric opportunities, she rose, if possible, above her former excellence. In voice and in feeling, not mere acting of passion, Mdle. Titiens answered on Tuesday all the demands of the most fastidious and exacting. The *Manrico* of Signor Giuglini was, we need hardly say, an excellent one. His "*Mal reggendo*," "*Di quella pira*," and "*Deserto sulla terra*" were the gems of his performance. The *Aucena* of La Guarducci was an excellent one; and our old friend Badiali was far above mediocrity in the one great solo, "*Il balen*," and the concerted music allotted to the representative of the *Conde di Luna*.

POPULAR CONCERTS, ST. JAMES'S HALL.—The first part of last Monday's concert consisted entirely of compositions by the song-poet of modern Germany—Schubert, the beloved of his great countryman, the pleasant cynic of Paris, Henry Heine, and the admired of that truly kindred spirit, Jean Paul. A quartet in A minor headed the programme; Messrs. Joachim, Ries, Schreurs, and Piatti, the quartet players of these admirably orthodox, and as admirably managed evenings, were the performers. The lovely "*Ave Maria*," the sentimental "*Wanderer*," and the melo-dramatic "*Erl King*," three of the composer's acknowledged masterpieces, were given by Miss Theresa Jefferys (whom we are glad to see so kindly and judiciously put forward); Mr. Santley, a most capable interpreter; and the ever delightful Miss Palmer, whom we still would have rather heard in other of Schubert's works. Mr. Charles Hallé, with that exquisite touch and intelligence for which he is renowned, played the grand sonata in D major on the piano-forte; and, again, a duo for that instrument and violin, with Joachim. The latter unrivalled violinist was heard to every advantage in the second part, with Mr. Lindsay Sloper, in a violin and piano barcarole, by Spohr; and other works of this master were as excellently given by the various artists already named. Miss Palmer's solo song, and Miss Jefferys' "*In the Silver Beams of Luna*," were received with the gratification that such able vocalists can afford in the illustration of such intellectual works as are all of Dr. Spohr; and, on the whole, the concert, which may be considered an experiment, consisting, as it did, entirely of modern German classical works, proved once more the sympathy between the Britannie and the Teuton mind.

Miss EMMA BUSBY gave a well attended concert on Friday last, at the Hanover Rooms. She was assisted by Mrs. Santley (late Miss Kemble), Miss Behrens, and Messrs. Joachim, Piatti, and Santley. The programme was short as regards the number of pieces, but comprised some high class music. The fair benefactress successfully played a trio by Mendelssohn, with Messrs. Joachim and Piatti for piano-forte, violin and violoncello; and also a sonata by Beethoven with the same able coadjutors. She also displayed to advantage her facility and excellent taste in one of Chopin's fantasias, with which the concert was brought to a close.

Miss LE DIEU will give a Soirée Musicale at the Beethoven Rooms, No. 76, Harley-street, on the 6th of June next, on which occasion she will be assisted by Miss Louisa Van Noorden, Miss Palmer, Mrs. Bentin, M. Regaldi, and other eminent artists. Miss Louisa Steller will also make her first appearance in public. No doubt as this is Miss Le Dieu's first concert it will be well supported, and will

create considerable interest in legal circles, where her father was well known and much esteemed.

CRYSTAL PALACE.

The first flower show of the season came off on Wednesday, when a select if not numerous body of floral amateurs, strolled, flirted and dissertated among treasures of roses and posies that would have satiated even an oriental flower worshipper. Those entrusted with the arrangement of these lovely children of the sun, had certainly acquitted themselves with consummate taste. All along the nave were radiated avenues of every hue, from central banks of heaths which were disposed in the transept. All about the statues were charming groups, their brilliant colours forcibly contrasting with the white of the marble or the plaster. Horticulturally, we cannot descant upon the beauties of the scene. We have no atom of right to approve or dissent from the verdicts passed on rose, azalea, pelargonium, or orchid. But we may speak with confidence and pleasure of the high gratification, to sight, smell and hearing derived from a happy hour or two we passed, listening to the glorious bands of the Palace and the Guards, among the lasses and the flowers in the giant conservatory.

As the time draws near for the Great Handel Festival it is certain that the rush for places will be far beyond the extent available even at the Crystal Palace; and as the occasion is one that cannot again offer, those who desire to attend will do well at once to secure tickets.

The London choral rehearsals at Exeter Hall have recommenced after a short suspension. On Monday, the second day's music (comprising the "*Dettingen Te Deum*," and a selection from several oratorios) was rehearsed. The variety and interest thrown into this day promises to make it the favourite performance with the public. On Friday, "*Israel in Egypt*" was gone through. The precision attained by the 1,600 voices, comprising the Metropolitan Amateurs contingent, elicited the heartiest applause from the distinguished visitors present, and evidently afforded the most entire satisfaction to Mr. Costa, the conductor of this gigantic musical gathering. During the past week the engagements for the instrumental portion of the orchestra have been completed. It comprises 242 first violins and violas, and 120 violoncellos and double basses. Above one thousand provincial and continental choral engagements have also been made. To enumerate all the cathedral choirs, choral societies, and other musical institutions which will furnish their respective contingents, would be almost tantamount to giving a complete list of those bodies.

Considerable additions, principally unison stops, are being made to the Festival Organ, and some gigantic steel kettle drums, far exceeding in size any yet in use, and some deep-toned brass instruments, are being built for the occasion. In all these points, however, it is not mere noise which is sought, but solid addition to that deep, ponderous, grand tone which is associated with the efforts of a great choral orchestra.

ADELPHI THEATRE.—Opinions are varied as to the permanent success of Mr. Tom Taylor's new drama, "*The House, or, the Home*," produced on Monday. That it will be for a time attractive the name and repute of the author are sufficient guarantees. The leading character of the piece, the *Hon. Horace Chetwynde* (Mr. Alfred Wigan), a diplomat and M.P., is represented as one of those laborious spokes in the wheel of Government who sacrifices domestic pleasure to Downing-street duties and ambitions. Mrs. Chetwynde, his neglected, but not unloved, wife, whom Miss Henrietta Simms very fairly represented, has a narrow escape from the dangers which attend ladies in her position who seek sympathy, through entrusting her confidence to Mr. Frederick Wardour (Mr. Billington), a young man of fashion, who becomes so deliriously enamoured of her that he for a while abandons his prospects of a foreign appointment and elects to remain in London. Mrs. Wardour, his mother (Mrs. Alfred Wigan), soon fathoms his mystery, finds that the lady in the case is the wife of her friend, and saves them both. A subordinate character in the plot, the fussy old *General Witherington, C.B.* (Mr. C. Selby), contrives, inadvertently, to open Chetwynde's eyes to his perilous situation; and this gentleman, wisely appreciating his own share in its creation, and in mercy to the feelings of his friend Mrs. Wardour, pardons the youth, and resolves for the future to prefer *The Home* to *The House*.

This bare analysis of the story can afford no more idea of the numerous involutions of Mr. Taylor's artistically constructed plot than can any moderately lengthy criticism acquaint the reader with the broad touches of character set down for the actors, or the manifold delicacies with which Mr. and Mrs.

Wigan adorn their parts. As the absorbed Secretary of State in the earlier part of the play, and as the man of heart and passion towards its close, Mr. Wigan showed the greatest vigour and intelligence; while Mrs. Wigan's impersonation of the true lady and true mother, Mrs. Wardour, was as highly wrought and as touching as any of the most successful of this actress's former successes. The *General Witherington* of Mr. Selby was of the Mr. Potter class of old gentlemen, and perhaps, therefore, hardly high enough in tone for the stilled society in which the general is supposed to move. Mr. Selby, however, employing all the tact and excellence in "make-up" for which he is renowned, made, we are bound to add, a very excellent impression upon the audience, and contributed by his exertions to secure the warm demonstrations of approval with which the piece was received.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—This theatre opens under the management of Mr. Augustus Braham and Signor Marques, and new operas will be produced in succession, the next on the list being by Mr. G. A. Macfarren. The day of opening is the 11th of June, when the new opera of "*Raymond and Agnes*," by E. Loder, and the celebrated Spanish ballet troupe immortalised by the critiques and writings of Victor Hugo, Dumas, &c., will be performed.

WILLIS'S ROOMS.—On Tuesday, Mr. T. M. Jones delivered a lecture, or—no aid to memory being visible—an oration on Byron. The audience was large and well composed; the whole room was full, and the applause was considerable. The orator is a moralist, and will become, we venture to predict, highly popular. He traced the vicious career of Byron with the intensity of a detective, and charmed his hearers by hunting him down through his baseness, pettiness, paltriness, contempt of society, fear of criticism, love of puff, pomp, sin, and vanity, to his hopeless, Godless end. In his contrast between the moral attitudes of Lord Byron and Martin Luther at the death beds of their respective daughters, the lecturer powerfully impressed the majority present. Here his tall figure and flashing eyes told to advantage; he threw himself with energy into the parallel; and, we could see, made at once a host of fervent admirers, who will rapidly carry him into popularity.

The marriage of our prima pianista assoluta, Miss Arabella Goddard, with Mr. J. W. Davison, one of the most eminent musical critics of our, or of any other time, was announced in the *Musical World* of Saturday last.

MADLLE. PICCOLOMINI has, according to the American correspondence of our contemporary, *The Bulletin*, issued a valedictory address to the people of America, couched in the most florid terms, and signed, "The people's devoted, Maria Piccolomini."

THE GREAT NORTHERN HOSPITAL.—This admirable institution is situated close to the railway terminus at King's Cross, in a very populous and also a very poor neighbourhood. It has been the means, during the few years of its existence, of effecting an amount of good which cannot but be considered remarkable when its limited resources are taken into consideration. From its propinquity to the cattle market, and the Great Northern Railway, it affords a ready resource in numerous cases of accident; but its principal value is found in the relief which it dispenses daily to a vast number of the sick poor, who would otherwise be deprived entirely of medical assistance. At the hospital every day in the week are to be found some of the most eminent members of the medical profession, generously devoting their valuable time for the good of their suffering fellow-creatures, by whom their services are most gratefully appreciated. We regret to be compelled to add that, hitherto, the public has not given to the hospital that support which it deserves; and indeed it has more than once been on the point of closing its doors for want of the necessary funds to pay the current expenses. Strenuous efforts are now being made by a few benevolent individuals to place the institution on a firmer footing; and as a means to this end Miss Annie Goddard has generously undertaken to give a concert at St. Martin's Hall, on the 31st instant, the entire profits of which are to be given to the hospital. To say nothing of the excellence of the object, which in itself ought to prove an attraction, Miss Annie Goddard has secured the most eminent artists in London for the occasion, and we trust our readers will do what they can to support her in her good work.

The *Freeman's Journal* says:—"We regret to learn that small-pox prevails to a large extent in Dublin at present. In some families as many as five or six members have been stricken down simultaneously."

The rectory of North Bovey, near Chudleigh, 500*l.*, is vacant by the death of the Rev. J. F. Courtenay; patron, the Earl of Devon.

COMMERCIAL.

THE TRADE OF NEUTRALS.

OUR neutrality is loudly proclaimed, but, apparently, neither the Government nor the people feel at home in this new position. Everywhere, from the highest to the lowest, there is a dread of Napoleon, a love of Italian freedom, a hatred of Austrian despotism, an apprehension of the Continent being overrun and united against us, or of its being covered with armed men, calling on us for help—everywhere there are old recollections or young teeming hopes, which will not allow either Government or people to feel as neutrals, however much they may desire and be constrained so to act. Her Majesty's Government interferes almost as palpably as the people take sides. There is, in consequence, a general uneasiness. Merchants, it is said, are slow to freight ships for France or Austria, lest they should be captured. They doubt whether they may fulfil contracts to deliver provisions or coals, lest these articles be declared contraband of war; and already some of our people suffer many of the miseries of a quarrel in which both Government and people profess they have no wish to engage. The captains of American ships, more accustomed to neutrality, and less apprehensive than our shipowners, are taking freights which the latter refuse, and envy at their success adds to the grief of disappointment. If the English shipowners give way to the Americans from any apprehensions of danger, they must be wrong. The Americans are neutrals, like ourselves, and whatever is permitted to them by the law of Nations is permitted to us. Where they can go our ships can freely sail. That they cannot be employed as transports or store-ships for a belligerent is the consequence of our own municipal law.

The Act 59 George III., referred to in the proclamation on neutrality, by which restrictions are now imposed on our trade, is our own notorious "FOREIGN ENLISTMENT ACT," passed in 1819. Under the pretext of meliorating the Draconian provisions of the law, 9 and 29 George II., which could not be enforced, they were then extended, though softened, to what were called "unacknowledged Powers." Recollecting the success of our own American colonies, and the assistance they had received from France, the Tories—at all times the enemies of liberty—forced the Act of 1819 through Parliament in spite of opposition, for the very purpose of preventing the English people from giving assistance to the colonies of Spain, "the unacknowledged Powers" at that time in revolt. It was part of the policy which desired the coercion of our own people. Such an act ought never to have been passed, and now we have to suffer its consequences in the interruption of trade. We may, too, at this period, when every colony of Spain, except Cuba, Porto Rico, and the Philippine Islands, has established its independence, state, as the result of experience, that this Act inflicted an equal injury on the colonies of Spain and on our people. But for it much greater numbers of them would have engaged in the services of the insurgents, and much British capital would have been directed to the same end. In all probability these colonies would then have had a greater infusion of British blood, and all their affairs would have been better managed by British skill on British principles. They would so much the sooner have established their independence, and secured for themselves more stable Government. Then, closely united with us by political and commercial ties, they and we should have prospered more together by their growth in security. The Act was passed by the Castlereagh administration for the bad purpose of hindering the projects of our people in favour of liberty in the Spanish colonies; and now the genuine Tory successors of Castlereagh invoke the Act to curtail a perfectly honest and sound neutral trade between England and the great European belligerents.

Neutrals are not required to cease trading with belligerents; they are only required by international laws to treat all belligerents equally. They are to serve them all as commercial customers, but not to assist either exclusively or to injure the other. There ought to be no fear that the property of Englishmen, as such, will be destroyed,

though there may be particular things standing in the way of warlike operations which will not be spared; but, as the rule, the property of neutrals will be held sacred by both parties, and even the property of enemies will not be wantonly destroyed. Many of the fears of which we read are rather the offspring of our own old prejudices, and old passions, than of present facts.

For England, neutrality in a European war is a novel position. She has been usually one of the belligerents, and has carried her hostility to neutrals further than most other countries. From the close of the seventeenth century she has continually provoked armed leagues of the Northern Powers to vindicate the neutral rights, she abridged, and she may probably fear, but we believe without reason, that her maxims will be acted on against herself. No other State has a naval power like hers to enforce such maxims, and at present it is more probable that her neutrality will be strictly respected, and she courted, than that her former conduct will be imitated, and she now thwarted. It must be recollected that since she was at war the Powers of Europe have adopted more enlightened principles of neutrality, and avowed greater respect for neutral property than formerly prevailed. In 1856, when the treaty of peace was concluded at Paris, a declaration respecting maritime law was signed by the plenipotentiaries of Great Britain, Austria, France, Prussia, Russia, Sardinia, and Turkey, which has been much abused as circumscribing our rights, but which will now operate in our favour as neutrals.

Its principal conditions were these:—

"The neutral flag covers enemy's goods, with the exception of contraband of war."

"Neutral goods, with the exception of contraband of war, are not liable to capture under the enemy's flag."

"Blockades in order to be binding must be effective," &c.

These regulations are binding on all the States now at war; or likely to be at war; and we, as neutrals, shall reap all the advantages of this improved maritime code. The only doubtful question is, what constitutes contraband of war. This is not to be decided by municipal law, but by the law of nations. No one belligerent can properly decide that any article is contraband of war. Writing about the middle of the last century, Vattel said "Commodities particularly useful in war, and the importation of which to an enemy is prohibited, are called contraband goods. Such are arms, ammunition, timber for shipbuilding, every kind of naval stores, horses, and even provisions in certain cases, when we have hopes of reducing the enemy by famine." The essence of contraband is the prohibition, and as long as the importation of fuel and provisions is not prohibited they are not contraband. Now, both the belligerents will equally require these, and neither will prohibit the importation of them. That one of the two belligerent Powers which could best stop the importation, and capture the neutral ship, has the most need of fuel and provisions; and while both have so lately agreed to respect even enemy's property in neutral ships, they will surely not violate neutral property in neutral ships. Since Vattel wrote the whole face of society has been changed; and now to prohibit as contraband of war what may be required to carry it on, would be to stop all trade with belligerents. Besides the articles mentioned by him, iron, leather, sugar, coffee, or tea, medicines, spices, have all become necessary to continue an army in the field; and nothing, therefore, can now be considered contraband which is not specifically enumerated and prohibited.

It seems, therefore, that the apprehensions which are said to stand in the way of our people completing contracts to supply coals and forage to the French Government, as long as they are equally ready to supply similar articles to the Austrian Government—and they are not forbidden by our own laws—are unfounded. Our Government cannot regard such conduct as an infringement of neutrality, and we trust it will not discountenance, much less prohibit, our neutral people from equally supplying either of the belligerents with any articles, not already prohibited, they choose to command and pay for.

From the evils of war, as they affect our trade, by ruining our customers or lessening their power to purchase, we cannot escape. Trade between different nations has been recommended and en-

couraged by all reflecting men, as connecting them in peace by bonds of mutual interest. When these are cut all must bleed; and the philanthropist can only lament that they are not numerous and strong enough to make the suffering so great that all the nations of Europe shall regard the Sovereigns who provoke or have recourse to war, to serve the purposes of their own ambition, as their worst enemies, rather to be hunted down as wild beasts than supported, honoured, and obeyed.

MONEY MARKET & STOCK EXCHANGE

Friday Evening.

THE Money Market is very easy to-day and has been so for several days. On the Continent, as well as here, in spite of the large demands made by Governments, the rate of discount is falling. To-day the best bills have been done fully 1 per cent. below the bank rate, with a probability that money will continue easy. The condition of the market, in face of the large demands recently made on account of the war, and other circumstances, excites surprise; but the explanation is that under normal conditions the demands of trade are almost infinite compared to the demands of Governments, and the former are now in a state of comparative suspense. The interruption which war gives to trade paralyzes so many customary operations and impedes so much all new enterprises that the demand for money on account of trade becomes very dull and limited. The customary quantity of money or capital is not required, and hence its abundance. As things get settled and uncertainty ceases, should the war not be very disastrous, trade will revive and the demand for money will increase. Till that takes place money in spite of the war, or rather in consequence of it, will be easy. The fact should be noted and remembered as contrary to what has happened at the commencement of former wars.

The Stock Market has been very dull all the week. To-day Consols were at 91½, or ½ per cent. below the closing price of last week. Very little business is doing; the Stock Exchange is almost deserted, and it will take some time and favourable circumstances to recover from the late disorder. The decline and dullness of the English funds, in face of an easy money market, also excites surprise. At present our securities in relation to those of most of the Continental states, are very safe, and capital from abroad is likely to flow into them. Still, instead of being lively, as we might expect from a fall in the value of money, they are dull and drooping. We can only regard this as a confirmation of the opinion we expressed a fortnight ago, that the price of our stocks had, previous to the panic, been run up beyond its just level.

The question of contraband of war which is doubtful, and which Ministers are said to have decided as to forage, in favour of its not being contraband, while they have coals yet under their consideration, excites great attention. We have referred to the matter elsewhere; and here we can only repeat, that an article must be prohibited to be supplied to a belligerent before it can be contraband. It is competent for any belligerent state to prohibit a neutral from supplying its enemy with coal; but till such a prohibition be issued it will not be contraband.

Gold is again beginning to accumulate. A considerable quantity is coming in and none is now going abroad. We may expect, therefore, that the Bank accounts will show, till the trade again turns, a continued improvement. We subjoin them for the week.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria cap. 32, for the week ending on Wednesday, the 18th day of May, 1850:—

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.	
Notes issued.....	£31,020,385
Government Debt £11,015,100	
Other Securities .. 3,490,900	
Gold Coin & Bullion 16,545,385	
Silver Bullion	£31,020,385
£31,020,385	
BANKING DEPARTMENT.	
Proprietors' Capital.....	£14,533,000
Reserve.....	3,216,381
Public Deposits (including Exchequer, Savings Banks, Commissioners of National Debt, and Dividend Accounts).....	5,282,313
Other Deposits.....	17,290,940
Seven Day and other Bills.....	778,547
£41,121,181	

M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

Dated May 19, 1850.

GENERAL TRADE REPORT.

Friday Evening.

TRADE continues everywhere to some extent paralysed by the war. Yet some business has been done in sugar in the week for Mediterranean ports. Otherwise all the colonial produce markets are extremely dull. The corn market, on the contrary, is rather animated. People begin to speculate on increased wants and diminished supplies; and on Monday, as we stated last week would be the case, the corn market advanced 3s. It is firm to-day. An export of oats, for the use, as is supposed, of the French army, continues, and was both increasing the consumption and stopping production. Corn is likely to be dearer. With our immense trade to all parts of the world, much of it being indirectly, as well as directly, concerned in supplying the belligerents, it is impossible but we must suffer very severely from any extensive war; and it is our interest and our duty, therefore, to check the present war to the utmost of our power; and, if we can, it is our duty to put a stop to it. Failing in this, we must exert ourselves to observe and enforce on our Government the observance of a strict neutrality.

HOME, COLONIAL, AND FOREIGN PRODUCE MARKETS.

Friday Evening.

The arrivals this week of foreign wheat have been moderate, but small of all other grain.

This morning's market was badly attended, and the few runs of English wheat fresh up remained unsold, although offered at Monday's prices. There did not appear to be buyers of foreign; and to have forced sales for which no disposition was evinced, a decline of at least 1s. to 2s. per qr. would have been necessary.

Barley is in fair demand at Monday's quotations. Beans and peas are unaltered in value.

The oat trade is very firm, and in some instances an advance of 6d. per qr. obtained.

In flour there is very little doing.

COTTON.—At Liverpool there has been rather more doing to-day, the sales amounting to 8,009 bales, including 1,000 on speculation and for export, but at somewhat irregular prices, the market being well supplied.

TEA.—Our market is scantily supplied with samples. Although the demand is by no means active, prices are well supported. Common sound Congou is selling at 1s. 2d. per lb.

SUGAR.—For good and fine raw sugars there has been a fair demand at full quotations. All other kinds have met a dull inquiry at barely late rates. West India has changed hands at 36s. to 44s.; Bengal, 37s. to 44s. 6d.; Mauritius, 34s. to 45s.; and white Pernambuco, 43s. to 44s. per cwt. Refined goods are heavy, and common brown lumps may be purchased at 51s. 6d. to 52s. per cwt., being rather cheaper. In pieces very little is passing.

MOLASSES.—Our market is heavy, and late rates are barely supported.

COFFEE.—Good colony plantation kinds have found buyers at previous quotations; but other qualities have ruled somewhat cheaper. Other coffees are very slow in sale.

COCOA.—Fine parcels are in moderate request, at full prices; but all other descriptions are extremely inactive.

RICE.—Although our market has become much less active, the late advance in prices is firmly supported. Mid white Bengal has changed hands at 10s. to 10s. 9d. per cwt.

FRUIT.—There is more business doing both in currants and raisins. In prices, however, no change has taken place.

COTTON.—Our market is very dull, and prices are barely supported.

HEMP AND FLAX.—Hemp is very dull, at 30l. to 31l. for Petersburg clean. Flax rules heavy, but not cheaper.

SALTPETRE.—There is a fair inquiry for this article, both on the spot and for forward delivery, 44s. 6d. to 46s. having been paid for 13½ to 17½ per cwt. refraction.

INDIGO.—This article is very dull, at the decline established at the public sales.

METALS.—Scotch pig iron has sold at 48s. 3d. cash. The total shipments last week were 11,287 tons, against 11,385 tons in the corresponding week in 1858. Spelter, on the spot, is quoted at 19l. 15s. per ton. East India tin is steady at 129l. for Straits and 131l. for Banca.

OILS.—Linseed oil is in moderate request, at £29 per ton on the spot. Rape is dull at £39 to £43.

Other oils are a slow sale. Spirits of turpentine move off slowly, at 43s to 44s per cwt.

TALLOW T.Y.C. is steady at 55s to 55s 3d per cwt. on the spot, and 56s 6d to 56s 9d for the last three months' delivery.

RAILWAY INTELLIGENCE.

The adjourned extraordinary meeting of the Great Northern Railway Company, fixed for the 31st inst., is further adjourned to the 12th of July, the bills intended to have been submitted not being ready for consideration, in consequence of the dissolution of Parliament.

A special meeting of the Wimbledon and Dorking Railway Company is called for the 30th inst., to approve a contract with the South-Western Railway Company for the maintenance and working of the Wimbledon and Epsom line.

At the half-yearly meeting of the Waterford and Kilkenny Railway Company, it was stated that the receipts amounted to 9,001l. 8s. 2d., and the expenditure to 5,350l. 5s. 1d., leaving a surplus of 3,651l. 3s. 1d. After providing for interest on loans, a balance of 547l. 5s. 4d. would remain to the credit of the revenue.

A special general meeting of the West-End of London and Crystal Palace Railway Company was held on Tuesday, for the purpose of considering and sanctioning the sale or lease of the main line and Northwood branch to the London, Brighton, and South Coast Railway Company. A formal resolution, approving and confirming the agreement was carried; and a vote of thanks was given to Sir Samuel Peto for relinquishing his claim on 6,000 shares of 6 per cent. stock.

The directors of the Stockport, Disley, and Whaley Bridge Railway Company invite tenders for the construction of the railway from Whaley Bridge to Buxton, a distance of 8½ miles.

EAST SUFFOLK RAILWAY.—This line remains unopened, but the necessary certificate has been received from the Board of Trade, and no impediment exists on that score to its being made available for traffic. The delay rests with the Eastern Union section, between Ipswich and Woodbridge, the Government certificate not having been yet obtained.

JOINT-STOCK COMPANIES.

DURING the past fortnight the London District Telegraph Company's workmen have been actively employed in erecting the poles and wires on the house-tops along the Kennington-road. The whole of the works on the Surrey side, it is expected, will be completed in two months time.

At the half-yearly meeting of proprietors of the Provincial Bank of Ireland, the dividend announced was at the usual rate of 4 per cent. for the half-year, and it is proposed to pay in July next an extraordinary dividend of 30s. per 100l. share, and 12s. per 10l. share. The report was adopted.

A stormy meeting of shareholders in the Western Bank of London took place on Thursday, at the Thatched House Tavern, St. James'-street, Mr. J. A. Roebuck, M.P., in the chair, when resolutions were passed for winding up the Company, and transferring its business to the London and County Bank. Three liquidators were accordingly appointed. During the last two months the affairs of this establishment have been in a critical state. The auditors imputed irregularities to the manager, Mr. Clark, and induced the board to suspend him for a period of some weeks. They also disapproved of the mortgage of the Government securities held by the Bank. It is only fair to mention that the tenour of the proceedings at the meeting to-day was to exonerate Mr. Clark from the charges made against him. There is, however, sufficient evidence of banking losses, if not of mismanagement. The accounts, prepared by Mr. Maynard, the accountant to the board, show an absolute deficiency of 8,046l., but a large additional loss is certain to accrue on the realisation of various securities. According to Mr. Maynard's estimate the ultimate loss will amount in all to about 40,000l. The London and County Bank take the premises, furniture, &c., for 22,350l.

At an extraordinary general meeting of shareholders in the London Joint-Stock Bank, Mr. J. G. Maclean was elected a director, in the place of Mr. G. H. Foster, deceased.

The adjourned meeting of shareholders in the Alliance Bank is to be held on the 23rd inst., at Paris, when the report of the liquidators will be submitted.

An extraordinary meeting of the Great Britain Mutual Life Assurance Society is called for the 31st inst., to authorise the dissolution of the society, and the transfer of the business, "with such liabilities

as may continue to subsist," to the European Life Assurance Society.

A general meeting of the Trust and Loan Company of Upper Canada is called for the 31st inst., when a dividend is to be declared.

TRIESTE.—This city, which at the close of the last war had a population of about 10,000 inhabitants, now contains nearly 150,000. It owes its extraordinary rise and commercial prosperity to its being created a free port in the fullest sense of the term. The city is greatly indebted for many of its privileges to the Baron von Bruck, the originator of the Austrian Lloyd's, and now Minister for Commercial Affairs at Vienna.

PORT OF LONDON.—The general business of the port during the week has been more active. The ships announced inwards at the Custom House as having arrived from foreign ports were 286; there were 9 from Ireland, and 198 colliers. The entries outwards amounted to 124, and those cleared to 105, besides 31 in ballast. The departures for the Australian colonies only amounted to four vessels, viz., 1 to Adelaide of 421 tons; 1 to Sydney of 852 tons; and 2 to Port Philip of 1,301 tons; the total being 2,574 tons.

RED SEA TELEGRAPH.—The cable has been laid from Aden to Cossier, which is within about 300 miles of Suez. The completion of that branch of the undertaking may, therefore, be expected almost immediately.

CHANNEL ISLANDS TELEGRAPH.—The telegraphic communication with the Channel Islands had been suspended for some days past, in consequence of the submarine cable having parted a few miles from the Portland coast, but was again restored by the company's engineer on Wednesday.

SWEDISH SUBMARINE TELEGRAPH.—Messrs. Glass, Elliot, and Co., have received intelligence that the submarine telegraph cable, upon which they are engaged, on behalf of the Swedish Government, has been successfully laid down from Westwick, in Sweden, to Wisby, in Gotland, under the directions of their chief engineer.

TESTIMONIAL TO MR. R. M. HUNT, F.R.S.—A meeting was held on Wednesday at the London Tavern, Mr. Hyde Clarke in the chair, when measures were taken for promoting a testimonial from the mining and smelting interests to Mr. Robert Hunt, F.R.S., Keeper of Mining Records, for the organisation of a system of mineral statistics, a numerous committee was formed, and Mr. Darlington (Phillips and Darlington) appointed Hon. Secretary. A testimonial has been lately subscribed by the same interest, in recognition of the services of Mr. J. Y. Watson, F.G.S., in the publication of various works on mining statistics. It consists of a large silver inkstand and a salver of the value of 150 guineas.

CONTRABAND OF WAR.—The Queen's Proclamation respecting neutrality is not entirely understood by the shipping interest, and questions have been addressed to the Government which demand a clear and immediate reply. The difficulty seems to be properly to define the law as it stands respecting our commercial relations with foreign ports in times of war, and it may be found necessary to modify or improve existing arrangements. First of all, ship-owners want to know what really constitutes illegal contracts; and, secondly, whether such articles as coal and provisions are to be considered as contraband of war.

THE NAPOLEONS IN ITALY.—As for the Austrians and the French in Italy (says the *Telegraph*) it appears that there have been equal hesitations on both sides. Louis Napoleon has done nothing yet but reconnoitre. The rains have proved not less formidable to him than to General Gyulai. The French, to speak plainly, want to be attacked, that they may give battle at an advantage to themselves; the Austrians, on the other hand, are determined not to play their enemy's game. If, however, as Louis Napoleon says, with a sublime contempt for history, the bayonet is characteristically a French weapon, why not endeavour with it to force the enemy's lines? We should then learn how much of the Bonapartist genius has been transmitted with the camp bedstead, jackboots, and silver soap-box. But, come what will, France may sleep in confidence. Should the Emperor fall, Pion Pion of the white plume, is in the field. He has a true Napoleonic countenance, undisfigured by a single Dutch lineament; he is commander of a division; he goes where glory waits him; his royal bride at Paris expects him home this time with coloured feathers in his cap; and undoubtedly he will do—what he will do.

Mrs. Labouchere, mother of the Right Hon. Henry Labouchere, M.P., died on Sunday last, in her eighty-ninth year.

SHARES AND STOCKS.

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ENGLISH STOCKS.		Fr.
Bank Stock, div. 54 p. c. 4-year	222	
3 per ct. Reduced Anns.	904	
Ditto for Opening	91	
3 per cent. Consols Anns.	91	
Ditto for Opening	904	
New 3 per cent. Anns.	904	
Ditto for Opening	904	
New 34 per cent. Anns.	904	
New 24 per cent.	904	
5 per cent.	904	
Long Anns. Jan. 5, 1890	904	
Anns. for 30 years, Oct. 10, 1890	904	
Ditto exp. Jan. 5, 1890	904	
Ditto " Jan. 5, 1890	904	
Ditto " April 6, 1895	904	
India Stock, 104 per cent.	219	
Do. Loan Debentures	934	

ENGLISH STOCKS.		Fr.
India Loan Scrip	95	
Do. Bonds, 4 per cent., 1000l.	15d	
Ditto under 1000l.	12	
Bank Stock for account Aug. 5	12	
3 p. ct. Cons. for account do	12	
Ditto for Opening do	12	
India Stock, for account do	12	
Exchequer Bills, 2d. and 14d. p. day	12	
Ditto 1000l.	12	
Ditto 500l.	12	
Ditto Small	12	
Ditto Advertised 14	12	
Ditto Bonds, A. 1888 34 p. ct.	12	
Ditto under 1000l.	12	
Ditto B. 1889	12	
Ditto under 1000	12	

FOREIGN STOCKS.		Fr.
Austrian Bonds, 5 per cent.	98	
Brazilian Bonds, 5 per cent.	98	
Ditto 44 per cent. 1888	98	
Ditto 5 per cent. 1889 and 1890	98	
Ditto 6 per cent. 1893	98	
Ditto 44 per cent. 1888	98	
Buenos Ayres Bonds, 6 per cent.	98	
Ditto Account	98	
Chilian Bonds, 6 per cent.	98	
Ditto 3 per cent.	98	
Danish Bonds, 3 per cent., 1829	98	
Ditto 5 per cent. Bonds	98	
Dutch 24 p. c. Exchange 12 Guilders	98	
Grenada Bonds, New Active, 24 p. c.	98	
Ditto Deferred	98	
Guatemala	98	
Mexican 3 per cent.	98	
Peruvian Bonds, 44 per cent.	98	
Ditto 44 per cent. (Uribarren)	98	
Portuguese Bonds, 3 per cent., 1883	98	

FOREIGN STOCKS.		Fr.
Russian Bonds, 1822, 6 p. ct. in 4 st	98	
Ditto 44 per cent.	98	
Sardinian Bonds, 5 per cent.	98	
Spanish Bonds, 3 per cent.	98	
Ditto 3 per cent. Deferred	98	
Ditto Passive Bonds	98	
Ditto Com. Cert. of Coupon not fd.	98	
Turkish Scrip, 6 per cent.	98	
Ditto 4 per cent. Guaranteed	98	
Venezuela 5 per cent.	98	
Ditto Deferred 2 per cent.	98	

SOMETHING FOR CONSIDERATION.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE LEADER."

Sir,—In the money article of the *Times* of this date, it is announced that Mr. Thomas Howard, of Manchester, and Mr. J. O. Lever, M.P., have purchased, on speculation, the screw steamship fleet of the European and American Company, consisting of eight magnificent vessels, now, I believe, in the Victoria Docks. In ordinary times, this might excite little sensation and less comment. At present, I conceive it to be a fact of great importance; and I beg leave, through your columns, to draw the attention of the Government to the following circumstances as briefly as I can touch upon them. These vessels, new, powerful, effective, representing some 20,000 tons of shipping, may be converted into war steamers or transports at discretion. They are eminently fitted to carry the Armstrong gun as they are, and very little strengthening would, therefore, suffice to make them capable of carrying the ordinary heavy guns of modern navies. What if they should pass into the hands of France, or of Russia, or even of Spain? What if they should be transferred to Cherbourg? Ere long, the Admiralty may be straining every nerve in our dockyards to get ships ready to meet a combination of our foes. I shall attempt no forcible language. I only ask, ought this nation to let such a fleet as this go at such a moment?

VIGILANS.

London, May 20th, 1859.

THE WINE CROP IN FRANCE.—In the Bordelais, the owners of vineyards are generally satisfied with the state of the vegetation of the vines. In Burgundy they do not express satisfaction, but they have ceased to complain. In the Herault, prices are exceedingly firm, and if, as is hoped, large orders for the army be given, great activity will take place in the markets of that department. At Comdon, proprietors will not make any concession, and even when purchasers appear disposed to accept their prices, they raise them. In the Indre, business is calm, and during the last week was nearly null.

FRENCH CRUISERS ON THE COAST.—Three French cruisers were the other day reconnoitring the Lincolnshire coast of the Humber and German Ocean. On the Cornwallis saluting them, the officers of two of the French craft replied that they were watching the movement of some Austrian coal-trading vessels from one of the Durham collieries; while the officers of the other alleged that they were looking after some fishing smacks, the crews of which could not agree.

SOUTHAMPTON DOCKS.—The alterations which have been going on for several months past for the purpose of enlarging and deepening the inner dock at the port of Southampton are now completed, at an estimated cost of 50,000*l*. This dock now occupies an area of 10 acres, and the depth of water is 30 feet. It is capable of giving quay berths to 16 of the largest screw steamships afloat. Ranged around are extensive warehouses and vaults; there is no rise and fall of the water in this dock, and it can always be lowered at pleasure, so that any vessel embarking or landing cattle can be placed on a level gangway.

MODEST REQUEST.—At the Woolwich Local Board of Health a conversation took place respecting the removal to her friends at Gibraltar of a woman and five children who were chargeable to the parish. One of the members suggested that, as Sir William Codrington had been appointed Governor of Gibraltar, he would probably use his influence to obtain a passage for the woman in the same ship. The gallant officer replied, that as he was to start on the following day it was too late to attend to the matter.

MILITARY TETOTALLERS.—During the past two months a temperance movement has taken place in the Royal Artillery and Royal Marines at Woolwich. A teetotal society, comprising a large number of military members, has been formed, and numerous meetings have been held at the Scotch Church, which were presided over by officers of the Royal Artillery.

FRENCH MILITARY COSTUME ON SERVICE.—Regiments appointed to join the army leave, on marching, their tunic and shako at the dépôt, and make the campaign with a loose greatcoat and kepi, or foraging cap. This dress, less showy than the full-dress uniform, is much more convenient in marching. It was tried in Africa with great success. It relieves a man considerably, who in campaigning has such a considerable weight of ammunition and provisions to carry. The soldier finds himself more at his ease in this loose dress than in a close-buttoned frock coat and heavy shako.

The digging of the Isthmus of Suez Canal commenced on the 25th of last month, the first sod being turned by M. Ferdinand de Lesseps, in the presence of the contractor of the works.

TEETH.

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